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THE RIGHT TRACK

Report urges city to increase buffer zone at rail crossing

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MAD MAX'S SECRET FEMINIST AGENDA
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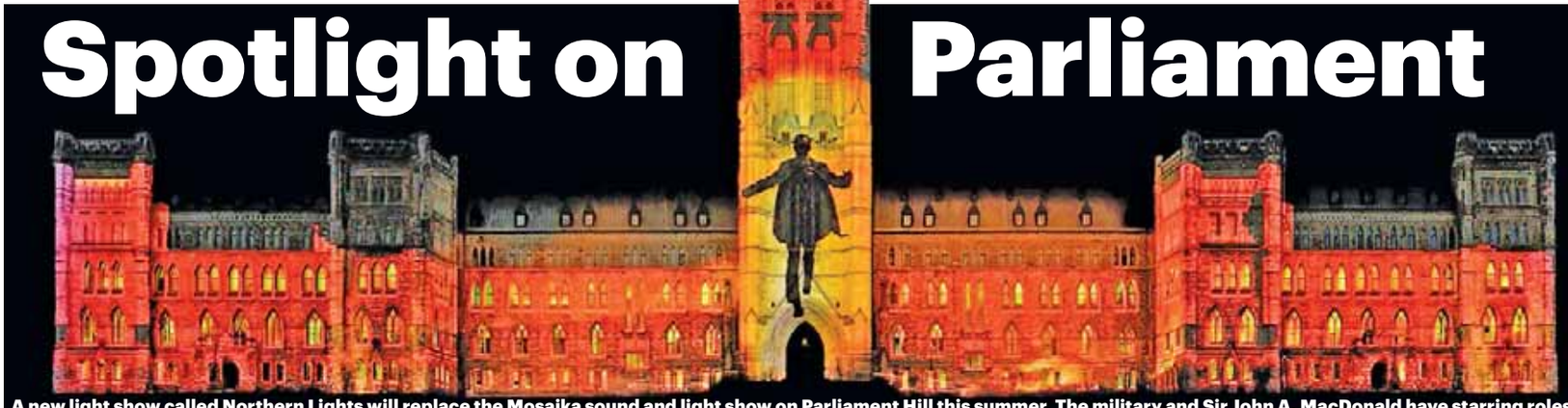

A new light show called Northern Lights will replace the Mosaika sound and light show on Parliament Hill this summer. The military and Sir John A. MacDonald have starring roles. Residents will be able to get a sneak peak of the show during the next few weeks. Story, metroNEWS. COURTESY CANADIAN HERITAGE

New water rates coming down the pipe

INFRASTRUCTURE

City looking at ways to deal with revenue shortfall

Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

With the City of Ottawa wading through alternative water rate systems, taxpayers could see their bills change by early 2017.

But the city doesn't yet know if people will end up paying more for their water.

City staff are looking at ways to deal with an ongoing water revenue shortfall that reached a record $22 million last year.

On Thursday, city deputy treasurer Isabelle Jasmin provided a background briefing on different rate structures, which will be presented before an environment committee on Tuesday.

From there, the city will host public information sessions in the fall and staff are hoping to return to council with a new rate structure by early 2016.

The city has yet to study how a fixed-rate structure would impact on the average homeowner's water bill.

DID YOU KNOW?

Ottawa has enough water and wastewater pipes to stretch from the city to Vancouver and back.

Currently, Ottawa's rate structure is based solely on consumption — and the city is in the small percentage of the province's larger municipalities to do so.

Most of the 24 other municipalities use a mix of a fixed rate and volumetric charge.

Water consumption in Ottawa has dropped 30 per cent since amalgamation — despite a growing population.

On the one hand, it means Ottawa residents are using less water.

However, the city relies on that water revenue flow to fund repairs for its aging pipes and infrastructure. That's expected to cost a total of $2.7 billion between 2012 and 2022.

Taxpayers may have noticed a change in water bills this month, as rates increased by six per cent — or about $48 on the average homeowner's bill.

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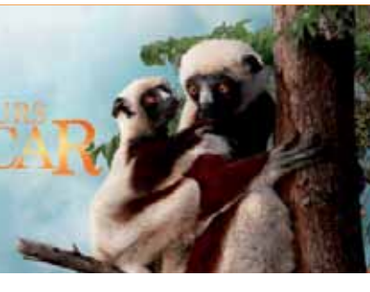

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Soldier objects to being pictured next to sex-misconduct story. **Canada**

VICTORIA DAY

What to do in the city this weekend

Most malls outside of the tourist-designated Rideau Centre and stores are closed on Monday for the Victoria Day holiday (Whole Foods has told Metro it won't be repeating its Easter defiance).

While your shopping plans might be interrupted, there are still lots of things to do this weekend in Ottawa:

GETTY IMAGES

Cycling:
Mountain Equipment Co-op will be holding the free 2015 BikeFest event on Sunday, starting at 8:30 a.m. Activities include a gear swap, clinics and group rides. It's the first weekend for the National Capital Commission's Sunday Cycling days. Colonel By Drive, the Sir George-Étienne Cartier Parkway and the Sir John A. Macdonald Parkway are all closed to cars on Sunday.

GETTY IMAGES

Fireworks:
Victoria Day and the Tulip Festival overlap, meaning you can stay for the evening and catch fireworks at Dow's Lake on Saturday night. Fireworks start at 9:30 p.m. The Riverside Park Community and Recreation Association is organizing its own fireworks and festivities at Mooney's Bay Park on Sunday night. Fireworks start at 9:30 p.m.

GETTY IMAGES

Tulips:
The Canadian Tulip Festival wraps up on Monday, meaning you have all weekend to enjoy music, art and over a million colourful flowers blooming across the city. METRO

Legionnaires' bacteria detected

DISEASE

Low risk to public, Health Canada says

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

The cooling system in one of the Place du Portage buildings in Gatineau contained traces of the bacteria that causes legionnaires' disease, the Public Works department confirmed Thursday.

The bacteria were discovered on May 11 after the heating and cooling system was tested 10 days earlier.

The results showed presence of the Legionella bacteria, which prompted the government to shut down the cooling tower of the phase three building occupied by Public Works and Government Services. Results from further testing of the cooling system are expected next week.

Legionnaires' has not been detected in any person and the fans in the cooling tower were shut down immediately and then decontaminated, said Public Works.

The department made the discovery of the bacteria public during a news conference in Gatineau on Thursday afternoon.

"This is a success story," said Andy Smith, associate assistant deputy minister with PWGSC. "Our protocol caught it. We acted."

Health Canada confirmed there is a "low" risk to public health and employees are safe to continue working in the building.

"Most people exposed to this level of bacteria do not contract legionnaires' disease," said chief public health officer Dr. Gregory Taylor.

In 2012, legionnaires' was blamed for the deaths of 13 people in Quebec City. The bacteria thrive on stagnant water in cooling systems and can travel up to six kilometres through the air in small droplets.

Government officials are in contact with everyone who may have been affected by the bacteria as well as building owners so they can inform their employees, according to Public Works.

A Public Works fact sheet on legionnaires' said the disease is spread only through exposure to airborne particles containing the bacteria.

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms of legionnaires' disease can include fever, chills, and a dry cough.

ACROSS THE RIVER A PICTURESQUE VIEW Parliament Hill is framed in the railing of the Portage Bridge in Gatineau, Que., on Thursday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Carleton's MOOC breaks down barriers to learning

EDUCATION

School offering new Intro to Psychology course online

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Carleton University is moving into the future with $75,000 in new government funding for a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC).

MOOCs are free to enrol in and take place entirely online — some see them as the future of university courses.

Bruce Tsuji, a professor of psychology at the university, helped develop the free online Intro to Psychology course being offered at Carleton.

While some just take it for fun, Tsuji's course offers the option midway through to formally enrol and start paying tuition in order to receive a university credit. It's one of a kind in the province and completely online.

"You can fit it in almost anywhere. Waiting for a bus? Watch a module. Waiting at Starbucks? Watch a module," he said. "Even if you're just interested in the strange things people do, now you can take intro psych."

Tsuji teaches psychology courses both in the classroom, where his students are mostly 17- and 18-year olds fresh out of high school, and online, where he's found a wider variety of students.

"For lots of us, university courses are no big deal, but that's the traditional university student," said Tsuji.

His said his course opens up university to people who have "complicated lives" that include full-time jobs, children and other commitments that prevent taking courses in-person.

One of his first students to complete the course for credit is an Ottawa mom who works a full-time job at the hospital while raising her three kids. Intro to Psychology was her first university credit.

She registered for the course on Dec. 23 and was able to pick her own exam times, two things that wouldn't have been possible at Carleton's physical location.

"That sort of flexibility is something that's long been missing from universities," said Tsuji.

> **"You can fit it in almost anywhere. Waiting for a bus? Watch a module."**
> Bruce Tsuji

Instead of marathon three-hour lectures, the course is divided up into instructional videos that are two to 15 minutes long. At the end of a section, students can take a short quiz.

In the free "just-for-fun" version, there's no time limit and no exam. In the version for registered students who want a credit at the end, there are three exams.

"For somebody who has never taken a university course, or maybe they did 30 years ago, it's tough to go back onto a campus. It's scary. Taking something like this is a way to get back on that track," he said.

Bruce Tsuji, a professor of psychology at Carleton University, helped develop the free online Intro to Psychology course being offered at the school. CARLETON UNIVERSITY

SANDY HILL COMMUNITY

City seeks heritage site status

Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

Hundreds of buildings in Sandy Hill could soon join the city's heritage family tree.

On Thursday, the heritage subcommittee approved 332 buildings for the heritage registry, plus a new historical boundary around Sandy Hill that would set building guidelines for new developments and renovation projects.

Rideau-Rockcliffe Coun. Tobi Nussbaum, the committee chair, hailed it as "great news for heritage in Ottawa and great news for Sandy Hill."

This study of the community's heritage is about eight years in the making, with the reports now going to the planning committee for consideration.

In 2002, realtor firm Les Jardins Pondev Ltée demolished two buildings on the Nicholas Waller Triangle without permits. The city launched a lawsuit, which was settled with a $250,000 payment to Ottawa. Of that, $150,000 was to be used for a study of Sandy Hill's heritage, which was launched in 2007.

With beginnings in the mid-19th century, Sandy Hill is one of Ottawa's oldest residential neighbourhoods. Long before university students dominated the area, it was home to many Parliament Hill politicians and senior civil servants.

The University of Ottawa's master campus plan, which was recently brought before the planning committee, fits with the proposed heritage guidelines, according to several members of the heritage committee.

If the plan makes it to council, and passes, those 332 property owners would be required to give at least 60 days' notice before demolishing the buildings.

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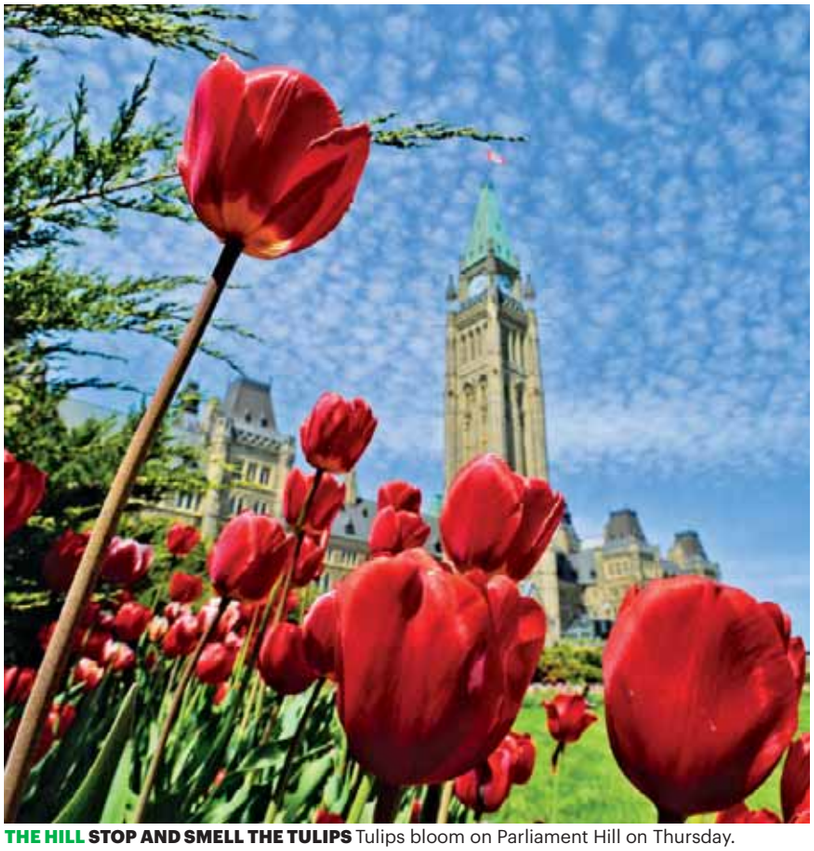

THE HILL STOP AND SMELL THE TULIPS Tulips bloom on Parliament Hill on Thursday.
SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Walk the walk' on lost women

FIRST NATIONS

Panel wants to make missing, slain people an election issue

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Delilah Saunders, left, and Kahente Horn-Miller speak at a panel discussion Thursday about the need for an inquiry into missing and murdered aboriginal women. JOE LOFARO/METRO

A national inquiry into missing and murdered aboriginal women should be top of mind at the voting booth in the upcoming federal election, say First Nations people in Ottawa.

"It should be brought to the forefront," said Kahente Horn-Miller, a Carleton University professor of aboriginal studies.

The university's New Sun Visiting Aboriginal Scholar said Canadians need to keep the momentum going following widespread outrage last May when the RCMP released a report that many say shows the severity of the crisis.

The report, based on data from police forces across Canada, said 1,181 indigenous women and girls have gone missing or were killed from 1980 to 2012.

Horn-Miller spoke on an all-female panel Thursday at Ottawa City Hall about the need for an inquiry and for an understanding of why aboriginal women are so vulnerable.

She said now is the time for the federal government to live up to its commitments in the 2008 apology for the Indian residential school system.

"We had the apology. When you talk the talk, you've got to walk the walk. The walking has not been done. The actions have not matched the words of the apology. It's just rhetoric; it's just words. Maybe putting pressure through the election, maybe then the walk will happen," she said.

Loretta Saunders' sister Delilah Saunders told the audience how the 2014 investigation into her sister's killing changed once police found out she was Inuk.

"I thought, 'This is the end. We're never going to find her,'" said Saunders.

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Move crossing gate: Report

FALLOWFIELD ROAD

City urged to increase buffer zone between railway, road

Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

The stop bars at the eastbound Fallowfield Road railway crossing will be moved farther away from the tracks to enhance safety following a consultant's report to the city.

Ottawa hired Human Factors North Inc. to assess the crossing, after several reported incidents of vehicles stopping beyond the stop bar and getting caught under the gate. In one case, a crossing gate came down on an OC Transpo bus carrying passengers, and the vehicle stopped almost a minute before a train rolled by.

The report recommends the city move the eastbound crossing gate back another five to 18 metres.

In a memo, city manager Kent Kirkpatrick said the staffers would get to work on increasing the buffer zone by five metres. The work should take two to three weeks.

The report also recommends a splash of fluorescent paint to enhance the "gunmetal" grey bars. Kirkpatrick said the city would pass that information along to Via Rail, which has jurisdiction over the gates.

The report follows a Transport Canada memo to the city on Nov. 7 — a day after the OC Transpo bus had a near-miss with the train — that said the railway crossing poses a "threat to safe railway operations."

The troubled railway crossing was not the location of the OC Transpo bus-Via Rail train collision that killed six people on Sept. 18, 2013, but it's close by on Fallowfield Road.

Kirkpatrick said the city is working with Transport Canada on the crossing gates.

"The city will continue to respond with direct action," he said in the memo.

OC Transpo has also hired MMM Group to review all railway crossings where its buses travel.

Human Factors North also conducted a study on a similar railway crossing in Montreal to compare the two.

Montreal's case proves longer stop-line distances work best. Areas where the lines were as far back as 18 to 24 metres produced "no issues" of vehicles stopping near the gates.

A Via Rail employee climbs aboard a locomotive at the Ottawa train station. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **The city will continue to respond with direct action.**
> City manager Kent Kirkpatrick

IN BRIEF

'Northern Lights' will be the new sound and light show on the Hill

After five years on the Hill, the Mosaika sound and light show was retired last year.

Canadian Heritage Minister Shelly Glover announced Thursday that its replacement would be called Northern Lights.

Glover said the Charlottetown accord, two World Wars and the creation of the flag are all big moments. Sir John A. MacDonald and the military will also have starring roles. The new show will debut on the lawn of Parliament July 10 and run until Sept. 12.

Nathalie Gélinas, vice-president and producer for Idées au cube, said it's much more technically advanced than Mosaika.

"Technically, it's the best thing you'll see. Even we were surprised when we were doing the tests. It's what we had imagined but better," she said.

Curious residents will be able to get another sneak peak over the next two weeks as the show is tested on the Parliament Buildings.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

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Suspended senator Patrick Brazeau arrives to court in Gatineau, Que., on Thursday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Suspended senator's accuser grilled in court

TRIAL

Brazeau faces charges of assault and sexual assault

The defence attorney for suspended senator Patrick Brazeau grilled the Crown's main witness at his client's criminal trial Thursday as he resumed his determined effort to find gaps in her story.

Brazeau, back in court after a six-week break, is facing charges of assault and sexual assault arising from an alleged incident two years ago in the Quebec city of Gatineau.

He has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Brazeau was kicked out of the Conservative caucus shortly after his arrest.

The female complainant, whose identity is protected by a publication ban, has alleged that Brazeau pushed her down some stairs, hit her head against a wall and a staircase, spat on her and sexually assaulted her.

Earlier in the trial, defence lawyer Gerard Larocque suggested to the court that the woman started the physical confrontation that led to Brazeau's arrest — accusing her of hitting Brazeau with her hand and a bra.

Brazeau's lawyer has indicated his client plans to testify in his own defence — an appearance that could come next Tuesday.

On Thursday, the senator's accuser was back on the stand for a fifth day. She faced a scattershot cross-examination by Larocque, who picked up where he left off when the case was last heard April 2.

Larocque worked to highlight potential discrepancies to the court between the woman's statements to police, made shortly after the alleged attack, and her testimony.

In one courtroom exchange, he noted how in a written police statement the woman alleged Brazeau strangled her with his hand by grabbing her throat.

In April, Larocque presented a photo in court, which was taken by Brazeau himself. It shows the suspended senator's bare neck with red marks and scratches he allegedly suffered in the February 2013 incident.

The court has also seen several police photos showing bruises and red marks on different parts of the woman's body.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BACKGROUND

Brazeau has a court date in June on charges of fraud and breach of trust in connection with his Senate expense claims. He also faces charges related to allegedly being behind the wheel while impaired in October, and for possessing a weapon in breach of his bail conditions. He pleaded not guilty to those charges.

IN BRIEF

Police seek scammer

As schemes go, this one seems half-baked.

Police are looking for a man who they suspect is behind around 50 telephone credit card scams since this past February. Police believe Jody Faucher, 45, calls a store to order an item using a stolen credit card. He asks the store to stuff money into the item — for example, putting an envelope full of cash into a bouquet of flowers, or asking for the money to be "baked" into cakes. Then he picks up the cash-stuffed item and pockets the dough. Faucher is described as white, 5'6" tall, 180 lbs., with dark hair and acne scars on his face. METRO

CRIME

'I didn't think my wife was going to die,' accused says

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Common sense eluded Chris Hoare the day he swung a baseball bat to his wife's head in an attempt to stop her from going shopping, court heard Thursday.

The accused realtor on trial for attempted murder told a court Thursday he was not thinking straight when he carried out the bloody attack in his garage after hiding serious financial troubles from his wife, Kirsten Cote.

He testified all he wanted to do was render her unconscious so that she wouldn't find out there was no money left in her account at the store.

"I didn't think my wife was going to die or have brain damage. I was simply thinking about knocking her out," said Hoare.

"It doesn't really make sense. Nothing I did made any sense."

Hoare has pleaded guilty to assault with a weapon, but not guilty to attempted murder, aggravated assault, and choking.

Crown prosecutor Michael Boyce argued Hoare had the option using nonviolent means of preventing his wife from leaving the house that day and ought to have known that repeated blows to the head with an aluminum bat could be fatal.

"You have referred repeated times decisions, thoughts, and plans you have formulated. But on the other hand when it comes to any incriminating thoughts your standard and default response is 'I didn't know that at the time,'" said Boyce.

Hoare disagreed, saying he has been forthright with his answers throughout his testimony.

"As stupid as they are, as inconceivable it is to me now, as I look back that I made those decisions, I remember making them," he said.

The trial continues Friday.

Media mogul leads PQ leadership race

POLITICS

Quebecor majority shareholder is front-runner

The Parti Québécois could begin its Pierre Karl Peladeau-led era this Friday.

Polls suggest the controlling shareholder of Quebecor Inc. (TSX:QBR.B), one of the biggest and most influential media companies in Canada, is the front-runner in the race to succeed Pauline Marois as permanent PQ leader.

Peladeau's opponents are former cabinet ministers Alexandre Cloutier and Martine Ouellet.

The first round of voting began Wednesday and ends at 5 p.m. eastern Friday. If none of the three gets 50 per cent, a second round of voting with the top two finishers will take place May 20-22.

Much of the campaign has focused on Peladeau's refusal to sell his shares in Quebecor. He has promised to put the shares in a blind trust, a position critics say is inadequate.

Although a political neophyte — he was elected in April 2014 — Peladeau's influence in Quebec is undeniable.

Quebecor owns some of the biggest media properties in the province such as newspapers, a TV network, book publishers and music distributors. His company is also a major player in cable, Internet and cellphone services.

Peladeau's critics and political opponents say he is divisive, anti-union and too short-tempered to handle the frustrations and nuances of political life.

But his passionate, public and fervent cries for Quebec sovereignty, coupled with his high profile, have made him a seemingly irresistible candidate for party brass who long desperately to be pioneers of an independent country.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pierre Karl Peladeau.
GRAHAM HUGHES/
THE CANADIAN PRESS

MEDICAL RESEARCH

Stem cell treatment help for paraplegics

A small number of paraplegics are now able to feel some sensation after having neural stem cells transplanted into their damaged spinal cords as part of a study, raising hope that the therapy may help restore movement in some paralyzed patients.

Researchers in Zurich, Toronto and Calgary used the experimental treatment in 12 people with injuries to the thoracic region of their spinal cords. The thoracic segments of the spine run roughly in line with the armpits to an area just below the waist.

Within months of having the injections of 20 million human neural stem cells, more than half the patients reported they had areas of restored sensation when tested with light touch, pin pricks or heat.

While the transplants did not bring back the ability for patients to move their legs or control other muscles below the site of their injury, seven of the 12 had "significant improvement in sensation," said Dr. Michael Fehlings, Krembil chair in Neural Repair and Regeneration at the University Health Network, who led the Toronto arm of the study.

> **We have now legitimately entered into the era of regenerative neuroscience.**
> Dr. Michael Fehlings

That recovery of feeling means the stem cells may have partially repaired damage to the spinal cord, suggested Fehlings.

"The implications of what we're doing now is really quite profound because we have now legitimately entered into the era of regenerative neuroscience," he said.

"And this isn't occurring in shady overseas clinics that are selling things to vulnerable people. This is occurring under the auspices of the most rigorous federal agencies in the world. So the science is real and I feel very hopeful for the future."

Stem cells are the body's building blocks, giving rise to different kinds of cell types. Neural stem cells spawn various types of central nervous system cells, such as those found in the brain and spinal cord. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

No more appeals for crashed ferry driver

The Supreme Court of Canada announced Thursday that it would not hear the appeal of Karl Lilgert's convictions on two counts of criminal negligence causing death. Lilgert was at the helm of a British Columbia ferry that slammed into an island and sank.

Lilgert was convicted by a jury in 2013 and sentenced to four years for the deaths of Gerald Foisy and Shirley Rosette, who disappeared when the ship went down in March 2006.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

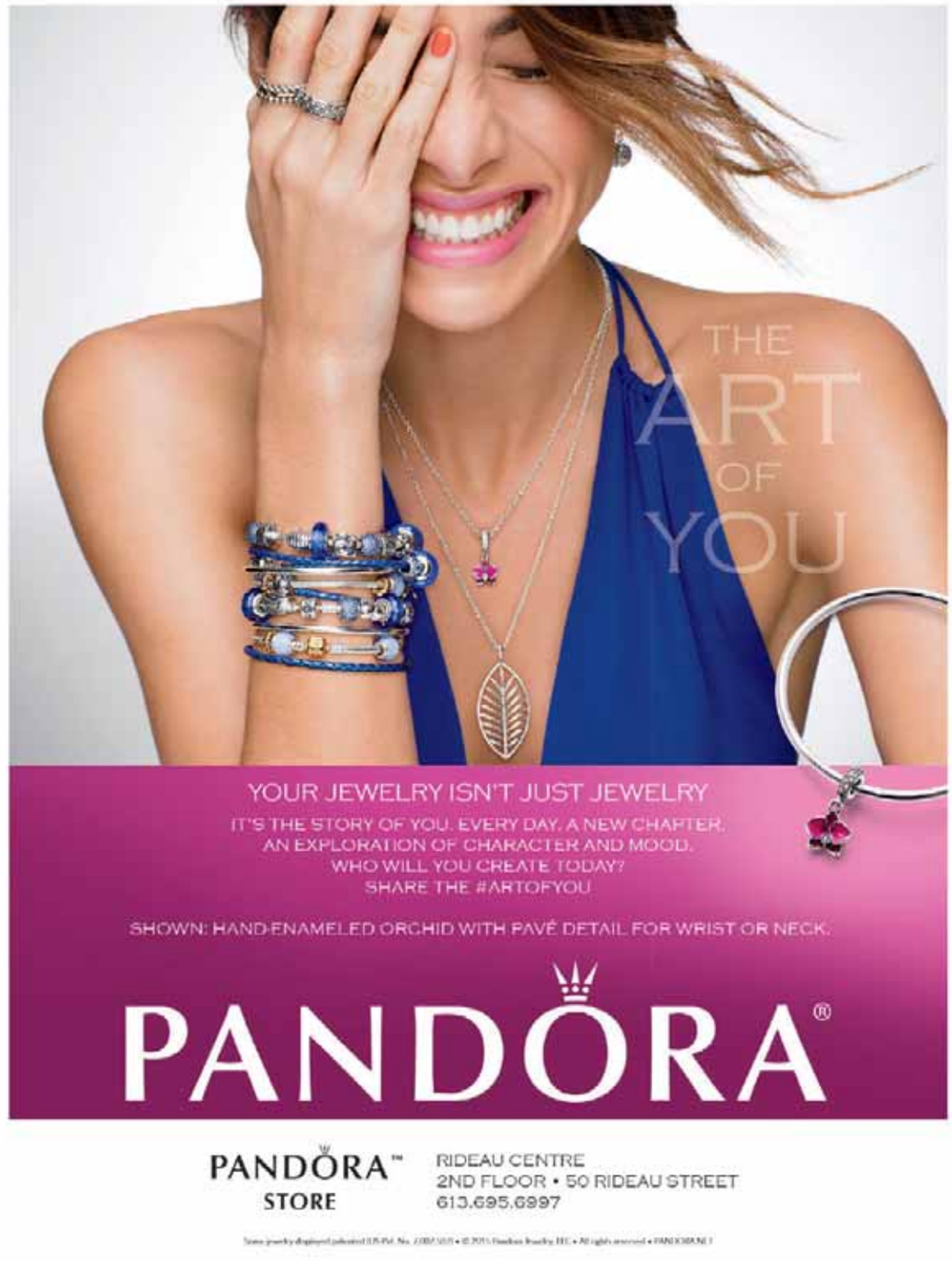
RCMP labour violations in Moncton shooting

The RCMP has been charged with four labour code violations related to the shooting deaths of three RCMP officers and the wounding of three others in Moncton.

The police force says in a news release that an Employment and Social Development Canada investigation alleges there were violations of the code relating to the force's equipment, training and supervision.

The police force is considering the charges

THE CANADIAN PRESS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Soldier says it's not so simple

Cpl. Ashley Turner is a female solider who has served in the armed forces for 12 years and completed two tours in Afghanistan. She was deployed on Operation Podium, the army's support for the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Turner wrote to Metro News after seeing her photo with an article about sexual misconduct in the Canadian military. Her letter follows.

I was very surprised to see my photograph in the May 1 edition of the Metro, and even more surprised to see the article that it was used to illustrate — an article entitled "Military Plagued by Sexualized Culture," which described the recent report by former Supreme Court justice Marie Deschamps on the misogyny and sexual harassment that is allegedly commonplace in the Canadian Forces.

While I am flattered that my picture was chosen to represent female soldiers in general, I also feel that the immediate impression a reader would get is that it was included to provide an example of a female soldier who has had first-hand experience of the issues discussed in the report. Therefore, I wish to clarify that this is not the case, and that I am not in any way associated with the study in question.

In fact, had I been one of the 700 personnel who were selected to participate in this study, I would have confessed that the time I have spent in the Canadian military — all 12 years of it — has been a very positive experience, and almost entirely free of the issues described in the article. Perhaps I have been unusually lucky to have worked with excellent male colleagues for the entirety of my career, or perhaps I am one of the "desensitized" women the article mentions. I do admit that crude jokes and swear words are spoken regularly in the military, yet I have never felt offended by them. In my experience, jokes that degrade women are not made any more often than jokes that degrade other groups of people — and, in fact, though the article mentions "references to female genitalia" as a particularly offensive example of such a joke, I can assure you that references to male genitalia are far, far more common. What I find much more offensive and misogynistic than any joke I have heard in the military is the notion that females, but not males, are somehow ill-equipped to handle this manner of conversing. The joking I have experienced has almost always been good-natured, and when the time has come to get the job done I have never found myself to be treated any less fairly than anyone else, or to be any less accepted by my peers as a result of my gender.

Of course, for both males and females, personal experience in the Canadian Forces will vary, and I am sure that, at times, legitimate harassment does occur. My intent is not to belittle the victims of this harassment, or to suggest that it should not be taken seriously. I simply wish to state that my experience in the Canadian Forces has been very different than the experiences of the female soldiers described in the article, and that the use of my photograph was therefore probably not the most accurate way to illustrate the concept discussed.

CPL. ASHLEY TURNER

Canada | metro NEWS

Military's problem of sexualized culture

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Judge's report highlights misogynstic behaviour

Being called an ice princess, or a slut, or told that they only joined the army to find a man: Those are just some modest examples of the misogynistic, highly sexualized culture that pervades the Canadian military and confronts its female members every day, a long-awaited sexual misconduct review said Thursday.

Eradicating that culture will

Cpl. Ashley Turner's photograph was published in Metro and other newspapers on May 1 alongside a story about the recent release of a scathing report into military sexual misconduct. She later wrote us to make clear that she should not be seen as "an example of a female soldier who has had first-hand experience of the issues discussed in the report." METRO

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22183

Khadr gets new win from SCOC

LAW

Court rejects attempt to declare him an adult offender

The Supreme Court of Canada wasted no time Thursday as it summarily rejected the federal government's bid to have former Guantanamo Bay prisoner Omar Khadr declared an adult offender.

The case centred on whether the eight-year war-crimes sentence he got from a U.S. military commission in 2010 ought to be interpreted as a youth or adult sentence.

The federal government has argued the latter, saying Khadr actually received five concurrent eight-year terms for each of his five war crimes — a conclusion the nine justices rejected in a rare decision from the bench.

"The sentence is under the minimum for an adult sentence," Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin told the court after about 30 minutes of deliberations that followed the end of the hearing.

"We are of the view that a proper interpretation of the relevant legislation does not permit Mr. Khadr's eight-year sentence to be treated as five distinct eight-year sentences to be served concurrently."

Dennis Edney, one of Khadr's the lawyers, said the swiftness of the ruling was a message to the Harper government for wasting taxpayer money on "persecuting my client."

After almost 13 years in custody, Khadr was released on bail last week while he appeals his U.S. conviction, which has drawn fierce criticism from legal and human rights experts.

Khadr was 15 when he threw the grenade that killed U.S. Sgt. Christopher Speer during a firefight in Afghanistan in July 2002.

Canada has extradition relations with some 83 countries, all of whom want assurances that an offender transferred here will serve their intended sentence, Department of Justice lawyer Sharlene Telles-Langdon argued during the hearing.

> **We can't slice and dice the eight years.**
> Justice Marshall Rothstein

Several members of the panel challenged Telles-Langdon during her 50-minute oral argument before a packed courtroom.

Compared with the mandatory adult sentence for first-degree murder, which is life behind bars with no parole eligibility for 25 years, "eight years for first-degree murder would be a youth sentence," Justice Andromache Karakastanis said.

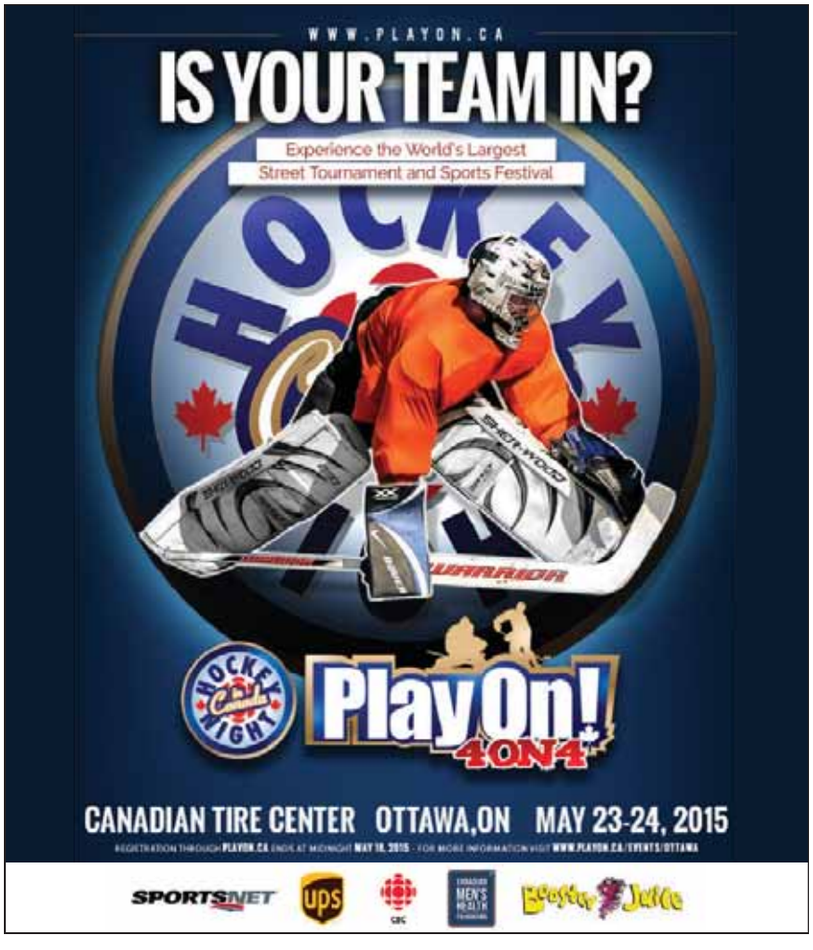
Justice Rosalie Abella asked Telles-Langdon whether she considers eight years to be a youth sentence. Yes, the lawyer replied.

"Then, isn't that the end of the story?" Abella said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

INFRASTRUCTURE MR. HOCKEY GETS HIS OWN BRIDGE Prime Minister Stephen Harper, left, and Murray Howe, Gordie Howe's son, announced Thursday that the Detroit River International Crossing, connecting Detroit with Windsor, Ont., will be named the Gordie Howe International Bridge. The 87-year-old Howe, known as "Mr. Hockey," was born in Floral, Sask., and led the Detroit Red Wings to four Stanley Cup championships.

PHOTO: DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS; TEXT: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



HARASSMENT

Calgary man charged after hurling obscenities at reporter

Calgary police have charged a man with hurling vulgarities at a female journalist while, ironically, covering the bad behaviour of hockey fans.

The man, who has not been named, faces a charge of stunting under the Traffic Safety Act.

CBC reporter Meghan Grant says she had been reporting along the Red Mile, a strip of bars and restaurants popular with Calgary Flames fans, the morning after a playoff game.

She was working on a story about poor fan behaviour, including the use of a sexually explicit phrase that has become a trend targeting female reporters in cities across North America. Then, she says, she heard the line herself.

> **All of a sudden somebody pulls up in a truck behind us and yells it at us.**
> CBC reporter Meghan Grant

"All of a sudden somebody pulls up in a truck behind us and yells it at us, which was absolutely stunning given what we were there talking about," Grant says. "We swung around only in time to see the truck driving away, but we did get the licence plate."

She says police tracked down the alleged heckler and told her Thursday that the man had been charged. Police spokeswoman Emma Poole says police have received several complaints about similar harassment. She believes it's the first time officers have laid a charge in such a case.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GUN REGISTRY

Rewriting law sets 'perilous precedent,' commissioner says

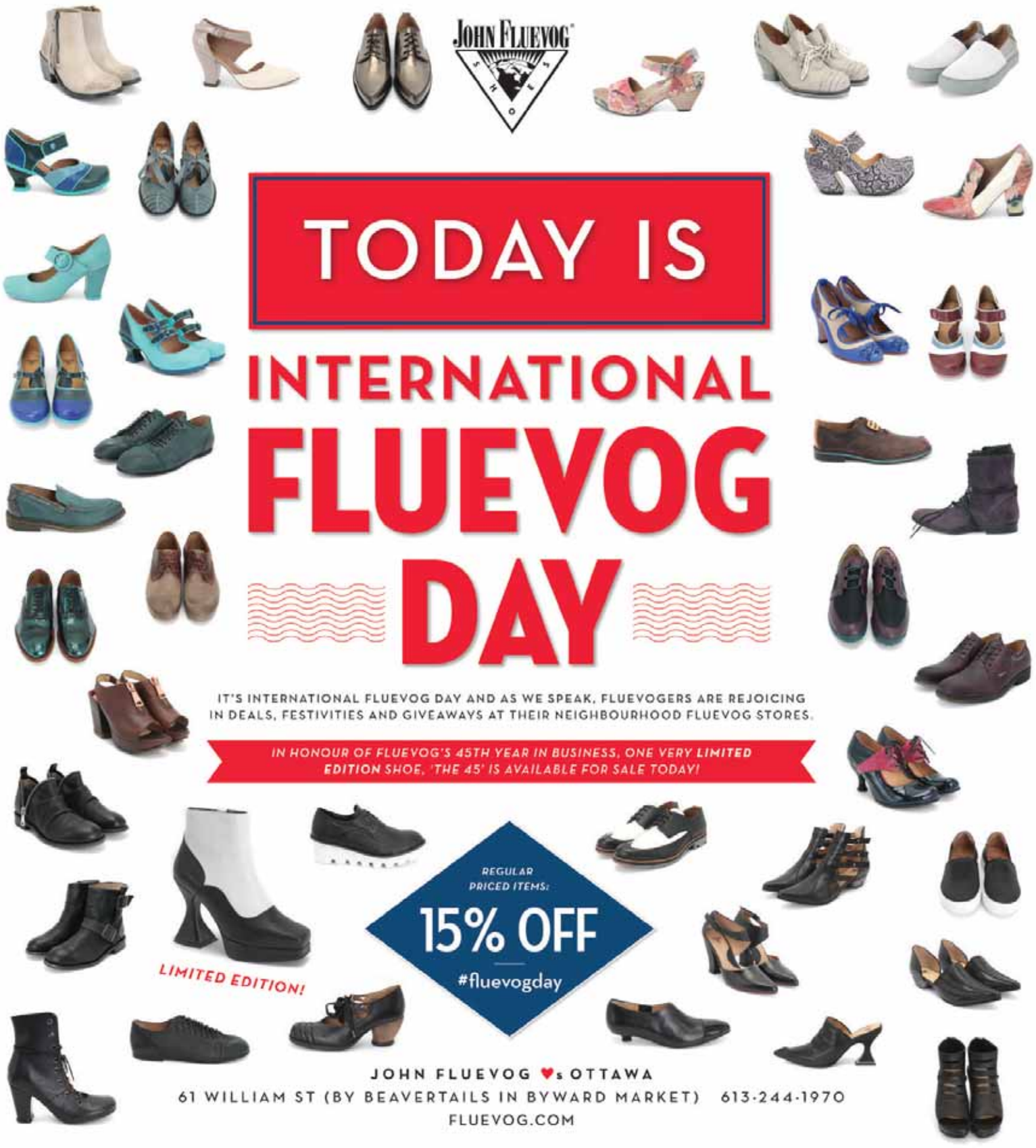
An unprecedented Conservative bid to rewrite the law in order to retroactively erase the RCMP's mishandling of gun registry records sets the table for legislated, after-the-fact coverups of far more serious crimes, Canada's information commissioner declared Thursday.

In a new report tabled in Parliament, Suzanne Legault concluded that the practice establishes a "perilous precedent" of rewriting laws — one that could jeopardize the ability of authorities to prosecute electoral fraud or other government scandals.

Legault recommended almost two months ago that charges be laid against the RCMP for its role in withholding and destroying gun registry data.

But instead of Justice Minister Peter MacKay moving on the recommendation to lay charges, the Harper government rewrote the law, backdated the changes and buried the amendment in an omnibus budget bill.

MPs and senators should "look themselves in the mirror and decide whether they can, in their own integrity, actually vote in favour of those proposed amendments," Legault said in an interview. THE CANADIAN PRESS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NEPAL EARTHQUAKE

‘Our people need shelter’: Nepalese PM

Nepal has been overwhelmed by its second powerful earthquake in less than three weeks, its prime minister said Thursday as he visited this normally placid foothills town, now filling up with frightened villagers desperate for government help.

Thousands of people coming from surrounding areas to seek help crowd the streets of Charikot, the administrative centre of the isolated district hit hardest by Tuesday’s magnitude-7.3 quake, which killed at least 110 people and injured more than 2,300. The magnitude-7.8 earthquake that hit April 25 killed more than 8,150 people, injured tens of thousands, and left hundreds of thousands homeless.

“After the first quake, we were not prepared for a second one so big,” Prime Minister Sushil Koirala told reporters after arriving in Charikot by helicopter.

The coming monsoon rains loom large. “We need tents. Our people need shelter. With the rainy season, it will be difficult for people to survive in the open,” he said.

Nearly everyone is too afraid to sleep indoors and aftershocks are keeping people on edge in this town. Food has been handed out occasionally here, but nowhere near enough for the people who keep arriving. Many simply waited at the locked gates of the army’s small aid distribution centre, shaking the fence angrily when their frustration got the better of them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **After the first quake, we were not prepared for a second one so big.**
> Sushil Koirala, Prime Minister of Nepal

BURUNDI FIGHTING BREAKS OUT IN CAPITAL DURING ATTEMPTED COUP A civilian jumps over a burning barricade of rocks erected by residents to protect themselves from police in a northern district of Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi, Thursday. Gunfire and explosions rang out in Burundi’s capital as military forces backing an attempted coup against President Pierre Nkurunziza battled it out with forces loyal to the elected leader. ERIK ESBJORNSSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIGRANT CRISIS

Thailand, Malaysia refuse boat people

Rohingya and Bangladeshis abandoned at sea following a crackdown on human traffickers had nowhere to go Thursday after Malaysia turned away two wooden boats crammed with hundreds of hungry people. Thailand, too, made it clear the migrants were not wanted.

“What do you expect us to do?” asked Malaysian Deputy Home Minister Wan Junaidi Jafaar. “We have been very nice to the people who broke into our border. We have treated them humanely, but they cannot be flooding our shores like this.”

“We have to send the right message,’’ he said, “that they are not welcome here.”

Thai Prime Minister Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha, meanwhile, said his country couldn’t afford to host the refugees.

“If we take them all in, then anyone who wants to come will come freely,” he said. “Where will the budget come from?”

He had no suggestions as to where they should go, saying: “No one wants them.”

Southeast Asia for years tried to quietly ignore the plight of Myanmar’s 1.3 million Rohingya but finds itself caught in a spiralling humanitarian crisis that in many ways it helped create. In the last three years, more than 120,000 members of the Muslim minority, who are intensely persecuted in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, have boarded ships to flee to other countries.

But faced with a regional crackdown, some captains and smugglers have abandoned the ships, leaving an estimated 6,000 refugees stranded at sea to fend for themselves, according to reliable aid workers and human rights groups.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amtrak engineer under scrutiny in deadly wreck

PHILADELPHIA

Bostian remembers nothing of crash: Lawyer

Brandon Bostian was obsessed with trains while growing up, talked about them constantly and wanted to be an engineer or a conductor.

“He would go on vacation and bring back subway maps,” Stefanie McGee, a friend from Tennessee, recalled Thursday. “He would go places with his family and he would talk about the trains instead of the places.”

Bostian’s teenage dreams would come true. But now, at 32, the Amtrak engineer finds himself at the very centre of the investigation into the nation’s deadliest train wreck in nearly six years.

He was at the controls of a train that investigators say barrelled into a curve in Philadelphia on Tuesday night at more than 160 kph, or twice the speed limit. Eight people were killed in the derailment and more than 200 injured.

Investigators want to know why the train was going so fast. But Bostian refused to talk to police on Wednesday, authorities said. And investigators with the National Transportation Safety Board said they would give him a day or two to recover from the shock of the accident before talking to him.

Separately, the Philadelphia district attorney’s office said it is investigating and will decide whether to bring charges.

Bostian’s lawyer, Robert Goggin, told ABC News that his client suffered a concussion in the crash and has “absolutely no recollection whatsoever of the events.” Goggin also said Bostian had not been using his cellphone, drinking or using drugs.

He said Bostian’s cellphone was off and stored in his bag before the accident, as required. Goggin said that his client “co-operated fully” with police and told them “everything that he knew,” immediately consenting to a blood test and surrendering his cellphone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADIAN DEATH

A Canadian executive with a U.S. financial services company has been identified as one of the people killed in the Amtrak train derailment in Philadelphia.

Wells Fargo said Wednesday that Abid Gilani, a Canadian senior vice-president at the company, was among the victims of the crash.

“It is with great sadness that Wells Fargo confirms that Abid Gilani, a valued member of our Commercial Real Estate division, has passed away,” the company said in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DZHOKHAR TSARNAEV

Jury considering fate of Boston Marathon bomber poses questions

The jury in the trial of Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev has asked the judge two questions a few hours into deliberating whether Tsarnaev will get life in prison or the death penalty.

The first question referred to “aiding and abetting” and “conspiracy,” concepts raised during the first phase of the trial. Tsarnaev was convicted then of committing the bombings with his brother.

The judge says whatever intentions Tsarnaev had is a question of fact to be determined by jurors.

The jury also asked about how they should fill out a portion of the verdict slip. The 24-page form is complicated and requires the jury to make findings on numerous mitigating and aggravating factors.

Three people were killed and more than 260 were injured when two pressure-cooker bombs packed with shrapnel exploded near the marathon finish line on April 15, 2013. Tsarnaev and his older brother, Tamerlan, also killed a Massachusetts Institute of Technology police officer days later.

The same jury that convicted Dzhokhar Tsarnaev of all 30 charges against him must now decide whether he gets life in prison or death.

Jurors began deliberating late Wednesday after listening to powerful closing arguments from prosecutors and Tsarnaev’s lawyers.

Prosecutors reminded jurors of the pain and suffering caused by the bombing and said Tsarnaev, a 21-year-old former college student, deserves to die for what he did.

But Tsarnaev’s lawyer said he was an “invisible” teenager in a dysfunctional family who was led astray by Tamerlan and deserves a chance at redemption.

Tamerlan, 26, died after a shootout with police in Watertown, N.Y..

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Mass spying lands in Senate

U.S. SECURITY

Authorization of bulk phone data collection set to expire

After the House's lopsided bipartisan vote to end the National Security Agency's bulk collection of millions of Americans' phone records, the Senate is under considerable pressure to pass a similar measure. If it doesn't, lawmakers risk letting the authority to collect the records expire June 1, along with other important counterterrorism provisions.

The House bill, known as the USA Freedom Act, would replace bulk collection with a system to search the data held by telephone companies on a case-by-case basis. It passed 338-88.

In the 100-member Senate, however, the legislation faces a 60-vote hurdle to begin debate. A similar bill failed to do so last year after passing the House by a wide margin. And the Senate majority leader, Republican Mitch McConnell, has expressed his opposition to the current House bill.

What's different this year, though, is that if Congress doesn't act, three provisions will expire. Not just the law authorizing the bulk collection of phone records, but also a measure allowing so-called roving wiretaps, which the FBI uses for criminals who frequently switch cellphones. A third provision makes it easier to obtain a warrant to target a "lone wolf" terror suspect who has no provable links to a terrorist organization.

McConnell has said he will put a bill on the floor to reauthorize all three provisions without changes. Wednesday's vote suggests the House won't pass such a bill, several House leaders said. And some senators have vowed to filibuster it.

"The Republican leader is isolated in his desire for a clean extension of illegal spying programs," Sen. Harry Reid, the top Democrat, said Thursday, making note of a recent appeals court ruling declaring the phone records program unlawful but keeping it in place for now. "We have a chance to take bipartisan action that protects Americans' civil liberties, it would be irresponsible for us to squander this opportunity."

McConnell has said he is open to a compromise. If one materializes, and something close to the House bill becomes law, it would represent one of the most significant changes stemming from the unauthorized disclosures of former NSA contractor Edward Snowden.

President Barack Obama supports the House legislation, known as the USA Freedom Act, which is in line with a proposal he made last March.

The issue also has implications for the 2016 presidential contest, with Republican candidates staking out different positions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The sign outside the National Security Agency campus in Fort Meade, Md.
PATRICK SEMANSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

> **We have a chance to take bipartisan action that protects Americans' civil liberties. It would be irresponsible for us to squander this opportunity.**
> Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid

BACKGROUND

NSA mass data collection

The revelation that the NSA had for years been secretly collecting all records of U.S. landline phone calls was among the most controversial disclosures by Edward Snowden, who in 2013 leaked thousands of secret documents to journalists. He lives in exile in Moscow. The program collects the number called, along with the date, time and duration of call, but not the content or people's names. It stores the information in an NSA database that a small number of analysts query for matches against the phone numbers of known terrorists abroad, hunting for domestic connections to plots.

Officials acknowledge the program has never foiled a terrorist attack, and some within the NSA had proposed abandoning it even before it leaked — on the grounds that its financial and privacy costs outweighed its counterterrorism benefits.

Proponents of keeping the program the way it is argue that the rise of the Islamic State group, and its efforts to inspire Westerners to attack in their own countries, make it more important than ever for the NSA and FBI to have such phone records at their disposal to map potential terrorist cells when new information surfaces. And they say there is no evidence the program has ever been misused.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. POLITICS

Trade powers bill back at table

Senators of both parties worked Wednesday to revive trade legislation that's a top priority for President Barack Obama, a day after Obama's fellow Democrats repudiated him nearly unanimously on the issue.

Despite intense lobbying by Obama, every Democratic senator except one, Delaware's Tom Carper, voted on Tuesday against moving forward on the legislation to award the president "fast track" authority to negotiate trade deals that can pass Congress without being amended. The vote failed 52-45, falling eight short of the 60 votes needed and dealing a stinging setback to the centerpiece of Obama's second-term economic agenda, his hopes for a landmark pact with Asian nations.

The administration moved quickly to resurrect the legislation, summoning key Democrats to the White House after the vote to discuss possible strategies. Democrats said they had agreed to drop a contentious provision aimed at cracking down on countries that manipulate their currency, and Republicans were weighing the offer Wednesday.

"Look, we want to have a serious discussion. We want to actually get a good policy outcome. That's always been our goal," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConell, R-Ky., said in a floor speech Wednesday. "I hope more will now join us to allow debate on the trade discussion our constituents deserve."

Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., appeared on the floor a few minutes after McConnell to say: "We have put a reasonable offer on the table for Senate Republicans to accept. All the Republican leader needs to do is say 'yes' and we can open debate on these trade bills."

In the House, which is waiting for the Senate to move first on trade, Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, told reporters: "At the end of the day I think there's a majority in both the House and the Senate for giving the president" the authority he is seeking to conclude trade deals.

The vote laid bare the strained relations between Obama and Democrats on Capitol Hill.

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DIPLOMACY

Iran pact won't hurt security: Obama

President Barack Obama pledged America's ironclad commitment to anxious Persian Gulf nations Thursday to help protect their security, pointedly mentioning the potential use of military force and offering assurances that a potential nuclear agreement with Iran would not leave them more vulnerable.

At the close of a rare summit at the presidential retreat at Camp David, Obama said the U.S. would join the Gulf Cooperation Council nations "to deter and confront an external threat to any GCC state's territorial integrity." The U.S. pledged to bolster its security co-operation with the Gulf on counterterrorism, maritime security, cybersecurity and ballistic missile defence.

"Let me underscore, the United States keeps our commitments," Obama said at a news conference.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FISHERIES GEODUCK FARMING TAKES OFF Zack Crow uses pumped sea water to loosen the muck while harvesting geoducks near Harstine Island, Wash. Last year, the U.S. exported $74 million US worth of the clams, mostly to China and Hong Kong, where they are served raw as sashimi or added to hotpot dishes. A growing appetite for the unique Pacific Northwest delicacy is prompting shellfish farmers to grow more of the clams. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tax raids on Uber offices in Montreal

TRANSPORTATION

Investigators looking for documents, official says

Quebec tax authorities have raided two Montreal offices of Uber, the company that offers rides at prices lower than typical cab fares.

About 20 investigators executed search warrants on Thursday seeking tax-related documents, said Stephane Dion, a spokesman for the province's revenue agency.

"The investigation has been going on for several months," Dion said in an interview.

"At the moment we have 20 investigators on the premises of Uber Canada Inc. The goal is to obtain as much information as possible, and these documents will then be analyzed. After that, we'll be able to determine whether charges will be laid.

"Revenu Québec is responsible for applying tax laws. We have the power to recommend that charges be laid. And they can be accompanied by fines and prison sentences of up to five years if individuals or the company are found guilty."

Asked for reaction, Uber spokeswoman Susie Heath said in an email that "we look forward to continuing to work with all stakeholders in Quebec to foster innovation, create jobs and provide consumers with much-needed affordable transit options."

The raids were conducted just more than two weeks after the City of Montreal announced it had seized 40 of the company's vehicles since the beginning of the year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

UBERX

Montreal and Quebec consider UberX a form of illegal transport. UberX uses a smartphone app to link clients to drivers in privately owned vehicles, without a taxi licence.

IN BRIEF

Mayors want in on Canada Post mail delivery suit

Montreal-area mayors say they hope to join a lawsuit aimed at overturning Canada's Post's decision to reduce home delivery because they say the Crown corporation is acting arrogantly and refusing to listen to their concerns.

The leaders of Montreal, Laval, Longueuil and surrounding suburbs want to obtain intervener status in a Federal Court lawsuit filed by the union representing Canada Post employees.

Canada Post's decision was made without consulting municipalities and will hurt large numbers of seniors and people with reduced mobility, the mayors said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bombardier cutting 1,750 jobs in Canada, Ireland

Bombardier said Thursday it will cut about 1,750 employees in Montreal, Toronto and Ireland over the coming months because of weak demand for its largest business jets. Up to 1,000 of the lost jobs will be in Montreal, while 480 positions will be eliminated in Toronto and 280 in Belfast. The cuts will begin in June and continue until the first quarter of 2016, said the company, which employs more than 70,000 people.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
WEEKEND, May 15-18, 2015

Happy face/Sad face

From **babies' babblings** to **benders gone bad**, Metro weighs in on the news making headlines this week

A tail of woe for would-be mermaids

Swimmers are kicking up a fuss in Alberta after community pools banned mermaid fins, citing safety concerns. The trendy costumes bind the legs together tightly, making staying afloat a challenge for weaker swimmers. The province's Lifesaving Society favours a "mermaid test" of swimming ability over an outright ban, while parents say they're the best judge of their of aspiring Ariels' skills. CBC.CA

Police bail out befuddled teens

Two teenage boys in Barrie, Ont. took some unidentified illicit drugs and promptly called 911 on themselves—because they couldn't find their way out of the woods. It was still broad daylight when police and EMS found the 19-year-olds with the help of sniffer dogs. The young men were "extremely disoriented" and "silently staring off into the sky." No charges were laid. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Improving kids' speech as easy as "Hola!"

You can stop teaching your two-year-old Portuguese now — just move him to Brazil. A University of Chicago study found young children who hear more than one language at home become better communicators. Using a specially designed game, researchers learned children from multilingual homes, even if not bilingual, could better understand speakers' meaning than those who only heard their native tongue. UCHICAGO.EDU

Goldfish get gold star for attention span

Good news! For goldfish, that is. The attention span of the notoriously dim-witted species is now apparently longer than ours. A study of the brains of 2,000 Canadians found the length of time we can focus on one thought has dropped to eight seconds from 12 in the year 2000 — around the time when the Internet started thinking for us. Goldfish can concentrate for nine seconds, swimming circles around us skills-wise. OTTAWA CITIZEN

'FHRITP' is not the free speech cause to fight for

THE KOHLER REPORT
Rebecca Kohler

Acronyms that helped change the world: SCUBA, NAFTA, FHRITP.

For those of you who don't know or were in a coma this week, a group of Toronto soccer fans, including Shawn Simoes, argued with CityNews correspondent Shauna Hunt outside a game over the merits and "hilarity" of yelling "f–k her right in the p—y" at reporters while they try to do their jobs (a "trend" for over two years now). The spontaneous confrontation went viral, and Simoes subsequently lost his six-figure job at Hydro One. Boo her right in the hoo!

Social media has been hot with FHRITP fever ever since. While most people I know are in favour of the Simoes vitriol, I've been surprised to see a lot of people come not only to his defence but to the defence of FHRITP itself. What gives?

Sentiments include, "It's not sexual harassment because some people yell it at men," as well as, "It's not sexist because it's funny." (This guy went to the Andrew Dice Clay school of feminism.) Politically conservative media personality Ezra Levant asked the totally-missing-the-point question, "Why is it OK for Elizabeth May to use the F-bomb in public, but not these guys?"

Have people never heard of the term "context"? The F-word by itself is not misogynistic or upsetting (except maybe to your grandma). Follow it with the words "her" and "p—y," and all of a sudden you have what sounds like a command from one person to another to attempt sex on a woman, whether the woman would like that or not.

The confrontation went viral, and Simoes subsequently lost his six-figure job at Hydro One. Boo her right in the hoo!

There's another term for what that is, and it rhymes with "shmexual shmassault."

I mean, if the phrase was "Eat a marshmallow on Sunday!" then this conversation would be pretty boring. Shauna Hunt would be all, "That guy yelled that I should eat a marshmallow on Sunday!" and we'd all be like, "What a delicious idea!" Everyone would be happy, except diabetics.

But the phrase is "F—k her right in the p—y." Is that sexual harassment? Is it misogynistic? First of all, yes. Second of all, who cares? Why must we define it as such to agree that it shouldn't be socially acceptable to yell it at journalists? This is like fighting for the right to insulate your home with asbestos. You have the right to fight for it, but why would you want to?

Rebecca Kohler is a stand-up comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

"Fashion may be fickle, but true style frees the mind."

No one looks like Iris Apfel.

The 93-year-old international style icon, to quote one designer, treats fashion as playfully as "a big box of Lego." Her outfits are more properly sculpture.

And like all artists, Apfel's true power is a defiantly individual imagination.

She won't be cowed to fit anyone's standards of style or thought but her own.

Apfel is the subject of Iris, a documentary rolling out across the country this month that follows her path from running a textile business with her husband, to interior designer for the White House, to fashion muse.

Despite the love showered on her late in life by fashion royalty after an exhibit of her wardrobe became an international sensation, she's so much more than they are.

She curates fantastical outfits — collisions of colour, patterns and feathers, layers of off-beat jewelry — and radiates freedom from conformity and the power of style as art.

Apfel abhors trends — those lazy directives on how you should look, peddled by brands and magazines for profits. In interviews, she's acerbically un-intellectual about her style and uninterested in defining it.

It's an attitude reminiscent of Katherine Hepburn, the starlet who wore menswear most of her life. Both exemplify how not to give a damn.

Apfel is a scavenger of flea markets and vintage stores. She detests head-to-toe high fashion and doesn't care what anything costs. She only cares, she's said in interviews, about how it makes her feel.

She speaks of the items of her wardrobe as loves.

"It feels good in my solar plexus," she's said of finding a new piece to add to the hundreds in her collection. "I get a good, warm feeling."

Browsing through photos of Apfel is as much of an adventure as reading Alice in Wonderland; you never know what you might see next.

The same can't be said for many of us. Self-consciousness is the rot in our closets. We're too often lured by the straightjacket of dictated taste.

But it doesn't have to be so. Apfel has no rules about how to dress. Her guide seems to be only the pure joy of self-expression.

And watching her wear whatever the hell she wants sends the message that you, too, can be different.

As one woman once told her, "I learned that if I don't have to dress like everybody else, I do not have to think like everybody else."

Fashion may be fickle, but true style frees the mind.

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PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan

Sip 'n' surf

Java or Java, coffee shops are a hot spot to connect

SHUTTERSTOCK

While it might be your barista's brew that brings you to your local café, the free Wi-Fi is also a perk worth of which to take advantage.

More and more, people come for the free Internet and stay for the coffee.

Once a place to connect in person, neighbourhood coffee shops have also evolved into hubs for device-toting customers to connect online — whether it's video chatting over a smartphone, playing a multiplayer word game on a tablet, or surfing through social media on a laptop.

Perhaps it's no coincidence that Java is both slang for coffee and the name of a popular computer language.

"Coffee shops are still the best meeting places for connected people," says Daniel Bader, editor in chief of MobileSyrup, Canada's largest independent source for mobile news and reviews.

"Wi-Fi is usually free and ubiquitous, and the atmosphere is often conducive to quietly working or chatting with friends."

Free wireless, in a hot spot like a coffee shop, is especially ideal for mobile phone users looking to avoid cellular data charges. Without the right plan — one that includes unlimited data and no overage fees — data could be a pricey pain point for Canadians; using a coffee shop's Wi-Fi connection doesn't count towards your monthly data limit (bucket), and is also ideal for those who don't have a cellular data plan at all.

"Wi-Fi offloading, the practice of moving cellular traffic to a Wi-Fi network, such as at a coffee shop, is becoming more prevalent as mobile usage increases," Bader says.

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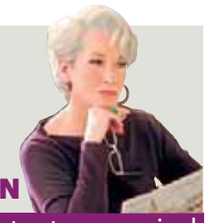

George Miller's Mad world

MAD MAX: FURY ROAD

Director sees dystopia through lens of a doctor

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse

George Miller has made pigs talk and penguins tap dance.

He's been a doctor and a film director. Among the bold-faced names on his resumé are the titles Babe: A Pig in the City, The Witches of Eastwick, Happy Feet 1 and 2 and Lorenzo's Oil. One name, however, looms larger than the rest: Mad Max.

Over the course of three films — Mad Max, Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior and Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome — he introduced the world to post-apocalyptic warrior Max Rockatansky, made Mel Gibson a superstar, defined dystopian cinema for a generation or two and created the phrase, "Two men enter, one man leaves."

This weekend, 30 years after the release of the last Mad Max movie, Miller revisits the character in Mad Max: Fury Road, a reboot starring Tom Hardy and Charlize Theron.

The 70-year-old director, who raised money to make the first film by working as an emergency room doctor, says the goal of the new movie was to make it "uniquely familiar."

After years of "following the CG evolution," using computer-generated images to create beautiful animated films, he was keen to go back to "old school" filmmaking "with real cars and real people and real desert."

That means, unlike the Avengers and their ilk, respecting the laws of physics by using practical effects and keeping the action earthbound.

In other words, in a call back to the original films, when a car blows up, it doesn't rocket into space. Instead it explodes spectacularly but organically. The wild action you see in Fury Road are actual stunts performed by stunt men and women and not generated by a clever computer operator in a studio.

"It was like going back to your old hometown and looking at it anew," he says.

Miller reveals he originally created Max's wasteland world while practising medicine.

"I worked for two-and-a-half years in a big city hospital. I stayed registered right up past Mad Max 2: Road Warrior. I never even thought there'd be a career. I stayed as a doctor on the first Mad Max because we kept running out of money in postproduction. Then I stayed through to the second Mad Max because if you are doing stunts, you are obliged to have a doctor on set. There weren't big budgets, so I ended up running a clinic during lunch time tending to cuts, sunburns, scrapes and all that."

Director George Miller originally financed Mad Max by working as an ER doctor.
LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

His two careers have much in common, he says, adding he was "privileged with a unique point of view as a doctor."

"I don't think I'd be the filmmaker I am unless I had that medical education, in two very direct ways. Both of them have a lot of problem-solving in there. But the most important way is that as a doctor you are looking at people in extremis from many points of view. You look inside of people. You see people during birth and death and so on. Through microscopes — a lens. So you're looking from many, many points of view. That's exactly what you do in cinema. Huge wide shots with massive crowds or you're looking right down inside someone's brain, someone's head."

As for plans to make another Mad Max right away, he says, "That's a bit like asking a woman who's just given birth if she's going to have another baby."

Tom Hardy in Mad Max: Fury Road.
CONTRIBUTED

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Mad Max: Fury Road ★★★★½
Pitch Perfect 2 ★★★½
Good Kill ★★★½

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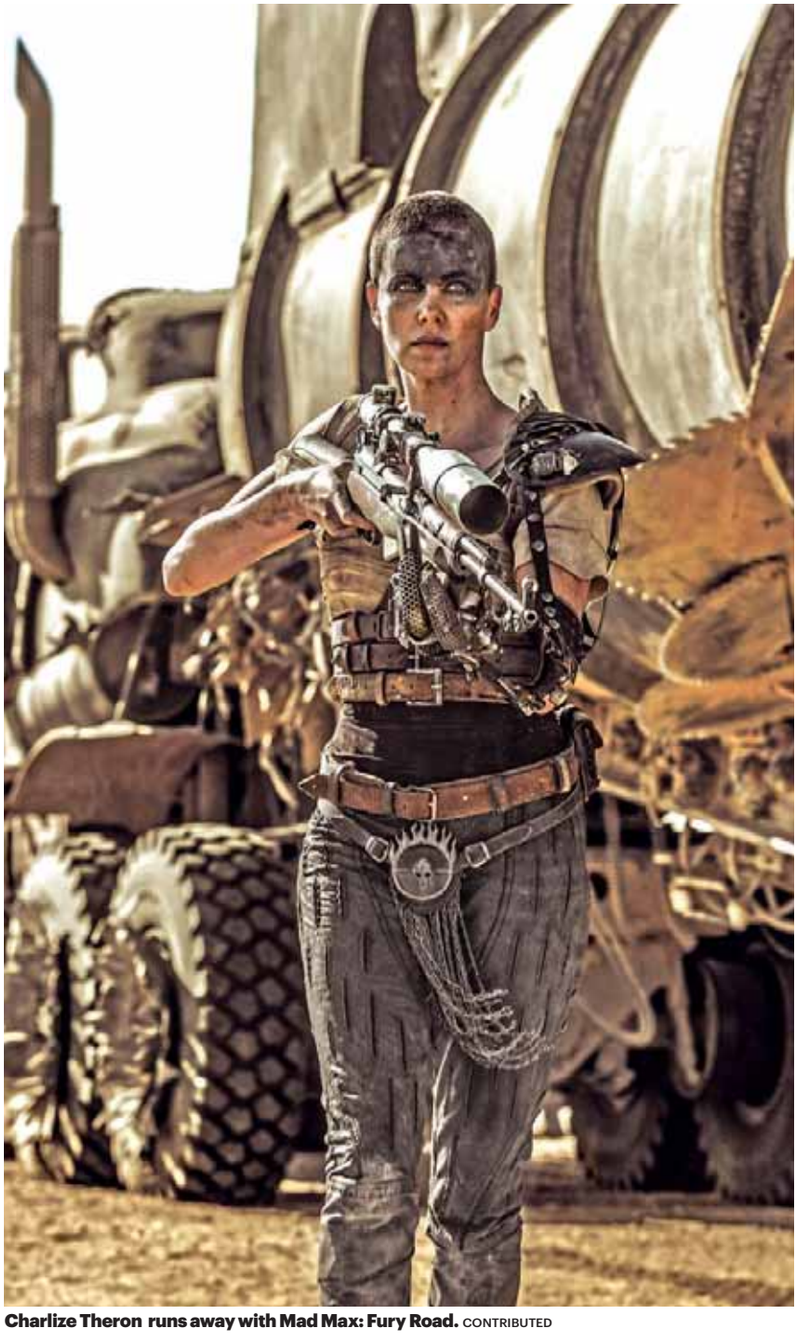

Charlize Theron runs away with Mad Max: Fury Road. CONTRIBUTED

Not-so-secret feminism in Mad Max: You got a problem with that?

FURY ROAD

Charlize Theron bulldozes her way to the alpha role in Fury Road

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

It's taken Australian director George Miller 30 years to bring his iconic post-apocalyptic wanderer, Mad Max, back to the screen. In the super-charged update, Tom Hardy steps in for Mel Gibson — and then just as quickly steps aside for co-star Charlize Theron, who runs away with the film as Imperator Furiosa. And, as Hardy tells us, he's just fine with that.

This isn't your dad's Mad Max

"Mad Max is not actually in the driver's seat in this movie," Hardy says. "It's about time you had better female leads in action movies. This is not a feminist argument, it's a personhood situation. This is how we ought to reflect the times — not so much strong women, but just people. You know, you have a male and a female who are both just personhood situations on both sides of the gender. I wouldn't put it past George to come up with a transgender (hero), do you know what I mean? He's not the type of person who's going to mince his words."

The apocalypse can be good for a laugh

"There's a sense of humour that George has got, a certain fearlessness in the enjoyment of that post-apocalyptic world, demented fun," Hardy says. "There's not just, like, good versus evil, you know, or 'The Road' or something like that where everything's just like devastatingly bleak, you know? It's a carnival, sort of a circus, sort of Vaudevillian. There is something almost Terry Gilliam-esque, Monty Pythonesque, without banging the gong. There's almost a tongue-in-cheek delirium. Everything is designed as a sort of ghastly, grotesque humour."

The film has a strong feminist streak

"He's a smart man, George, so what he's doing is reflecting the times as well as pioneering at the same time. He's reading the times, what's going on," Hardy explains. "And it's no surprise to me that he would use a character that is synonymous with Mel Gibson, the silhouette and the icon of Mad Max, to re-establish the world which he started off 30-something years ago, but it's very clear that actually, right down to the shoulder pad on her left arm, (Theron) is the female protagonist of this movie.

Tom is fine with not being the hero of his own movie

"I think that's very, very smart of him to deliver a female lead in Mad Max," Hardy says. "I remember talking to George back in Namibia about old-school movie star, male-female chemistry. How does the dynamic work between a strong alpha-male and a strong alpha-female on screen when you get them together. And I think in this one ... Charlize led this entire movie and it shows on screen and you can see it quite clearly. One has to yield to that. Because if you fight it, you get malleted."

INTERVIEW

Women behind the wheel in George Miller's sequel

The inhospitable desert landscape of Mad Max: Fury Road isn't so different from today's Hollywood: Low on water and overrun by men.

But amid the overflowing testosterone of Fury Road, George Miller's sequel to his post-apocalyptic franchise, Charlize Theron dramatically stands out. While Mad Max may star Tom Hardy as the titular road warrior of Fury Road, it is effectively Theron's film.

She plays Furiosa, a warrior with a shaved head and prosthetic arm, attempting to rescue a harem of wives held captive by a warlord. "When people first started talking about this film, this loud whisper went around town that George was looking to create a female character that can stand next to Max and carry the journey with him," Theron said in a recent interview.

"For a female actress, that always sounds intriguing. Look, we hear it all the time and very few filmmakers see that through."

Fury Road, which was to receive a premiere at the Cannes Film Festival on Thursday before opening in theatres Friday, is an atypical summer action movie — essentially a two-hour car chase — that's literally and effectively driven by a strong woman.

Lately, a chorus of actresses has spoken out about what they've called inherent sexism in Hollywood and the lack of quality female roles. Meryl Streep, Carey Mulligan, Kristen Stewart and Patricia Arquette have all recently made strong statements about gender inequality in the industry.

And on Tuesday, the American Civil Liberties Union asked U.S. state and federal agencies to investigate what it claimed is widespread gender discrimination in Hollywood.

"It's crazy that we live in a world, not just in Hollywood, where women get paid less than men for doing the same job," says Theron. "And also just the representation of women in film, it hasn't been that authentic and true. So when something comes along where women are represented in a truthful manner, all of a sudden, people really respond to it. And it's kind of like, 'You guys, this isn't anything new.'"

Channelling some rage into Furiosa came naturally: "There were emotional things that I could connect to."

Some have even described Fury Road as a feminist film. Vagina Monologues writer Eve Ensler consulted on the movie, working with the actresses playing the enslaved wives.

Theron's commitment to the character is clear enough: she shaved off her blonde hair for the role. "It wasn't that we were trying to hide her as a female," says Theron. "She had to almost disappear in this environment and everybody had to get to a place where they almost forgot that she was a woman. And I just didn't know how to do that with a ponytail."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Riley Keough as Capable in Mad Max Fury Road. CONTRIBUTED

Banking on Pitch Perfect 2

SEQUELS

Actor makes directorial debut with a cappella comedy

Elizabeth Banks on the Set of Pitch Perfect 2. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **I feel that I have more to offer this business and that I was being underused,**
> Elizabeth Banks, on her directorial debut

Everyone warned Elizabeth Banks against filming the outdoor concert finale for Pitch Perfect 2. It was June in Baton Rouge, La. It was scorching hot, it was hurricane season, and they would have to build a full, functioning stage and recruit a small town of extras to make it believable.

But Banks knew what she wanted.

"I kept saying, 'I don't care, it's going to look cool, we've got to do it'," said the actress, producer, and now, feature director.

It took nearly a month to build the Glastonbury Festival-inspired stage. As for the extras, the production sent out an open invitation casting call to fans of Pitch Perfect.

Over 3,000 people showed up. The massive undertaking required four all-night shoots, multiple cameras, elaborate performances and a tolerance for mysterious bug bites. Banks even took responsibility for the crowd's waning energy.

"At one point, she went out on stage and started whipping them into a frenzy," said Banks' husband and producing partner, Max Handelman. But the crowd really lost it when she brought a few Bellas out, too.

"It was her connecting the fans with the girls and letting everyone know that this was a big deal," said Handelman.

It's no secret that Pitch Perfect has fans to spare. Universal Pictures' modest 2012 comedy about a college a capella group (the Bellas) racked up $113 million worldwide and an additional $103 million in home video sales.

As plans for a sequel started to take shape, the first film's director, Jason Moore, signed on to the Tina Fey-Amy Poehler comedy Sisters, and suddenly Pitch Perfect 2 needed a director.

Banks, known for roles in The 40-Year-Old Virgin and The Hunger Games, had been thinking about directing for some time.

She directed plays at the University of Pennsylvania, and had been taking on small projects over the past few years to learn as much as she could.

Plus, as a producer and actor on the first film, Banks already knew the a cappella world and had the trust of returning cast like Anna Kendrick and Rebel Wilson.

"Right as I was raising my hand to do it, the studio said, 'Why don't you do it?"' she said.

The Bellas, this time, are trying to claw their way back to the top after a high-profile embarrassment.

"I certainly did not plan for my feature directorial debut to be a giant musical," she laughed. But she dove in and endeavoured to make everything — costumes, performances and stakes — bigger.

There's even a cameo by Pitch Perfect superfans the Green Bay Packers.

"I knew it would probably change my life. I also knew that I had to say yes. Women just don't get offered these opportunities," said Banks.

For the over four-months-long shoot, Banks relocated to Baton Rouge with her husband and two sons and "lived like a monk." She put in her 12 hours on set, spent as much time with her children as possible, and slept.

"I'm a wonderful multi-tasker ... as are most moms that I know. That helps," she said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Q&A

Adam DeVine talks happy accidents and Rebel Wilson

Ned Ehrbar
Metro Life

Adam DeVine works some onscreen romance with Rebel Wilson in Pitch Perfect 2. UNIVERSAL PICTURES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Adam DeVine didn't initially think much of 2012's Pitch Perfect, which he totally owns up to.

"Just because I'm generally ill-prepared and smoke too much weed, I thought the first movie was a baseball movie when I went to the audition," he remembers. "And then I get there and there's all these super-handsome dudes with abs in their cheeks, and they're all singing."

He managed to wing it well enough to earn the role of Bumper, the first film's sort-of villain, but any antagonism is gone for Pitch Perfect 2, as he explains in an interview with Metro.

Bumper is working as a campus security guard in the sequel. Did you do any ride-alongs to prepare?
Well, the campus security part of the movie isn't that detailed. I basically just wear a T-shirt, I'm not really securing much. You don't delve into that backstory too deeply. But to answer your question, no. Not at all. I did make out with Rebel (Wilson) several times before just to see how well our lips worked together. That was our ride-along. She's a killer smoocher. That girl has big old full lips, like little pillows.

You have a weirdly detailed Wikipedia page.
When I first moved to L.A. I needed to have a bio, and I hadn't done anything besides a few high school plays and hosting a pep rally or whatever, so I just cut and pasted Denzel Washington's bio as a joke. So it was like, "Adam DeVine, star of Man on Fire and Training Day," and then it said stuff like, "went to Fordham University, studied at the American Conservatory of Dramatic Arts in San Francisco." Everything else they caught eventually, but somehow the Fordham and American Conservatory stuff have stayed, so people think I'm, like, very well educated.

But the part about you getting hit by a cement truck?
I was hit but by a cement truck when I was a kid, and I couldn't walk for a couple of years. That was a huge turning point in my life. I'm glad it happened because I don't think my parents would've allowed me to move to L.A. when I was 18 to pursue my career.

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Arnold Schwarzenegger is a dad trying to protect his daughter in the zombie drama Maggie. CONTRIBUTED

Arnold's zombie flick Maggie is all heart

INTERVIEW

Schwarzenegger talks 'most human story' he's ever done

Matt Prigge
Metro in New York City

With Maggie, Arnold Schwarzenegger is getting something he's not used to: acclaim for his serious acting.

In the zombie drama — not horror film, but an actual drama — he plays Walt, an unusually buff Midwestern dad watching over his teenage daughter (Abigail Breslin), who has been bitten by one of the undead and is gradually turning herself.

It's a rare case where his muscles and brawn won't help, and for the onetime Predator star, that was a real thrill.

Why it's unusual:
"It's the most human story that I've done. It's the most human character that I've played. It's the most human zombie movie that was ever made. I can't even (think of a zombie movie) that focused so much on people and the dilemma that this man is in. There is baggage that I bring to the movie, being an action hero and all of a sudden I can't overcome this challenge and become very volatile as a character. That appealed to me."

Doing drama:
"It is very draining. The brain takes much more energy than the body does.... I remember when I was in the governor's office, I was totally wiped out in the evening. It was the same here. It's tough, but at the same time you're having such a great time doing it. You feel so passionate about the character and the movie is so fun to do. But you do get wiped out."

His character's reluctance to let his daughter be taken away:
"Under normal circumstances she should have been quarantined, but as a father you can't let that happen. You can't just send someone to quarantine to get this painful shot and then she dies slowly. I could not let that happen as a dad. Therefore I protect her as much as I could."

Now playing

COMEDY

Pitch Perfect 2

Director: Elizabeth Banks
Starring: Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson

Surprise hit Pitch Perfect gets sequelized in this Universal Pictures production once again scripted by Kay Cannon.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 73% Audience: 97%

DRAMA

Far From The Madding Crowd

Director: Thomas Vinterberg
Starring: Carey Mulligan, Tom Sturridge

Based on the literary classic by Thomas Hardy, Far From The Madding Crowd is the story of independent, beautiful and headstrong Bathsheba Everdene, who attracts three very different suitors.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 84% Audience: 76%

DRAMA/HORROR

Maggie

Director: Henry Hobson
Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Abigail Breslin

When a deadly zombie virus sweeps the nation, a father will stop at nothing to save his infected daughter in this post-apocalyptic thriller starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Abigail Breslin.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 51% Audience: 44%

COMEDY

Hunting Elephants

Director: Reshef Levi
Starring: Gil Blank, Sasson Gabai

In this crime comedy, a gifted 12-year-old boy and three elderly men plan a bank robbery in order to seek revenge on the institution for cheating the youngster after the death of his father.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 33% Audience: 66%

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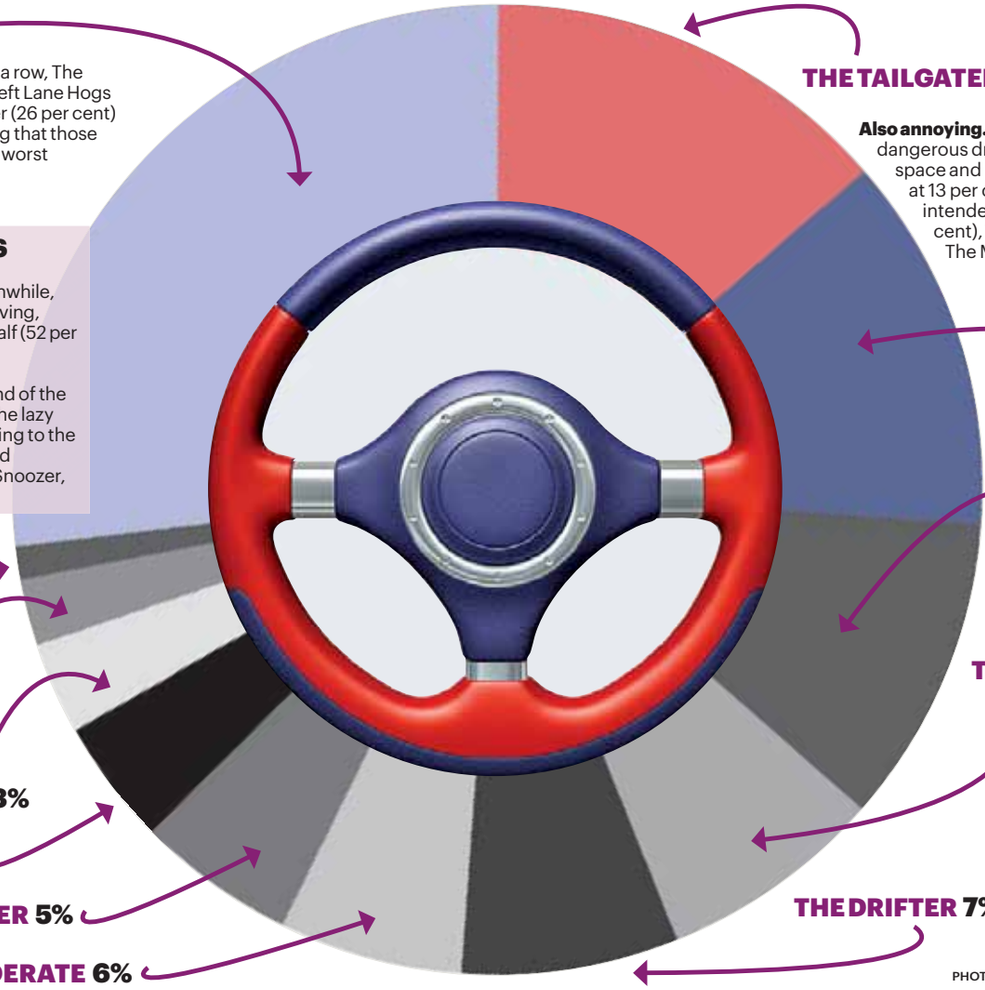
Most hated drivers

Do you text and drive? Not only are you likely breaking local traffic laws, but you're also the scourge of fellow drivers, according to Expedia's 2015 Road Rage Report ranking the most infuriating driving behaviours. As we head into the Victoria Day long weekend that unofficially kick-starts the launch of summer and road tripping, here's a breakdown from the report of the biggest driver pet peeves AFP



THE TEXTER 26%

The worst. For the second year in a row, The Texter outranked Tailgaters and Left Lane Hogs by a mile, with more than a quarter (26 per cent) of the 1,000 respondents agreeing that those who dare to text and drive are the worst violators of road etiquette.

THE TAILGATER 13%

Also annoying. Tailgaters, those irritating and dangerous drivers with serious personal space and patience issues, ranked second at 13 per cent, followed closely (pun intended) by The Left Lane Hog (12 per cent), The Crawler, (10 per cent) and The Multitasker, (7 per cent).

THE LEFT LANE HOG 12%

THE CRAWLER 10%

THE MULTITASKER 7%

THE DRIFTER 7%

THE INCONSIDERATE 6%

THE SWERVER 5%

THE SPEEDER 4%

THE UNAPPRECIATIVE 3%

THE HONKER 2%

THE RED LIGHT RACER 1%

PASSENGER PET PEEVES

- **Backseat Drivers.** Passengers, meanwhile, may want to refrain from backseat-driving, cited as the top peeve by more than half (52 per cent) of respondents.
- **Reluctant Co-pilots.** At the other end of the spectrum, the Reluctant Co-pilot — the lazy passenger who leaves all the navigating to the driver and won't open a map — ranked second, followed by the Radio Hog, Snoozer, Shoe Remover, and Snacker.

RUDEST DRIVERS

New York drivers appear to have the worst reputation in the U.S., with 42 per cent of respondents naming the city home to the rudest drivers, followed by Los Angeles (32 per cent) and Chicago (18 per cent).

PHOTO: ISTOCK

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IF YOU GO
The Go Bike Montreal Festival runs from May 24 to 31.

Chantal Doiron (right) leads a bike tour past Notre-Dame Basilica in Montreal. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cycling to take over Montreal

QUEBEC

Go Bike festival offers new way to see sights

A city that already carries the distinction of being North America's most bike-friendly city, Montreal puts its love of cycling on display at the end of May each year.

The week-long Go Bike Montreal Festival pays homage to that cycling culture, comprising a number of events geared toward riders of all experiences and ages.

"Bicycles are now part of the DNA of Montreal," says Joelle Sevigny of Vélo Québec, which organizes the event. "It's quite an amazing experience to discover a city this way. It's quite a blast."

The May 24 to 31 Go Bike festival includes three major rides culminating with the marquee event: the Tour de l'Ile de Montreal.

Into its 31st year, the island-wide tour allows riders to explore Montreal with a different route each year, extending through some 22 towns and boroughs. You can go at your own pace — the tour has a variety of distances for all riders, ranging from 28 kilometres to 100 kilometres.

"It's the first gathering of the season," Sevigny says of the May 31 event. "Some people get out there and do the full route, but the idea is to just get out there and ride."

Several other events throughout the week can help you get warmed up.

Kicking off the event on May 24 is the Metropolitan Challenge, a recreational ride with no podium and no clock. This year's event will trace a route that begins and ends in Chateauguay, Que., south of Montreal.

For those who prefer cycling under the stars, the Tour la Nuit is a 21-kilometre ride on May 29 and offers a unique, nocturnal experience. It drew 17,000 riders last year.

Sevigny says almost a quarter of the participants at the festival travel at least 40 kilometres to attend and many from even further.

"It's the only place in North America where we have a bike fest," Sevigny says. "The whole province of Quebec is really renowned for its festivals and this event is very unique to the province."

In general, Montreal's reputation as a cycling tourism hot spot is growing, in part thanks to 600 kilometres of dedicated bike paths and the popular bike share program Bixi.

An Old Montreal bike shop and tour operator chalks it up to tourists wanting to sightsee differently. André Giroux, owner of Ca Roule, offers various rides and tours with themes like architecture, history and gastronomy.

This year, Giroux says he's adding a new street food bike tour to coincide with the recent arrival of the foodie phenomenon. "Cycling is a new way to take in a city and people are always looking for alternative ways to see a town," Giroux said.

Colder weather doesn't necessarily spell an end to biking season: Sevigny says Montreal touts itself as a four-season biking city and her group has even organized a winter cycling event two years running.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRAVEL NOTES NEW WESTJET ROUTES, DISASTER DATA AND SEASIDE SPLENDOUR

New domestic WestJet flights

Airline WestJet has spread its wings with a number of new, daily non-stop services in Canada. In the west, these include flights between Calgary and Terrace, B.C., and Calgary and Yellowknife. In the east, there are now flights between Toronto and Gander, N.L. Keep an eye out in mid-July for new flights between Halifax and Sydney, and Halifax and Gander, Deer Lake, and St. John's.

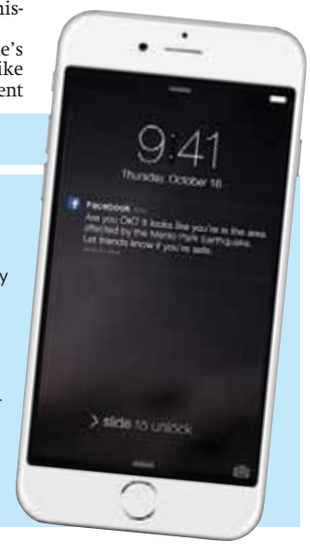
Bucket List: St. Ives, England

With the Gulf Stream ensuring warm summers, this Cornwall holiday town on the Celtic Sea is consistently voted the best seaside spot in Britain. Find fisherman's cottages, cobblestone streets, coastal footpaths, art galleries — including an outpost of London's Tate Gallery — and golden sand under your feet at four beaches. Take the train. Visit StIves-Cornwall.co.uk.

St. Ives, England, embraces a harbour. CONTRIBUTED

Emergency contact

Both social network Facebook and search giant Google have waded into natural disaster relief in the best way they know how: Facebook's Safety Check notifies you in the event of a natural or humanitarian disaster to ask if you're safe, then informs friends and family; and Google's Person Finder (Google.org/personfinder) lets you search for a data roundup of specific people following a disaster. DOUG WALLACE



St. Lucia defines getaway holiday

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie

Canadians seem programmed to seek out the Caribbean only when there is snow on the ground but the island of St. Lucia offers compelling reasons to take a summer vacation down south.

BEAUTY

The most recognizable image of St. Lucia is of the picturesque and UNESCO-protected Pitons, a pair of lush volcanic spires rising out of the water on the southwest corner of the island. The hike to the top of Gros Piton is well worth the couple of hours it will take you.

Other areas of the island offer a stunning mix of rainforest, beach and enough mountainous terrain to ensure jaw-dropping views from every vantage point.

ACTIVITIES

St. Lucia is not considered one of the Caribbean's premiere scuba-diving destinations, but it should be.

A dive to the Lesleen 'M' Wreck with Dive Saint Lucia convinced me of that.

The small ship was deliberately sunk in 1985 and is covered from bow to stern in anemones and colourful fire coral.

As we explored the open cargo holds, schools of electric blue fish poured down the sides of the ship like cascading waterfalls.

Other activities include rock climbing, zip-lining and lathering up in the volcanic mud baths of Sulphur Springs Park, which is considered a rite of passage for any visitor to the island.

Kick back at the Ladera Resort in St. Lucia. PETER REMUS

CULTURE

Independent since 1979, the culture of St. Lucia remains a mix of French, British and Creole. The best way to experience it is to put yourself in the path of the friendly locals.

Chat with a vendor over a cup of coffee at the Saturday market in Soufrière or check out Jump Up, a street party complete with music, food and locally made rum that takes place every Friday night in the town of Castries.

HOTELS

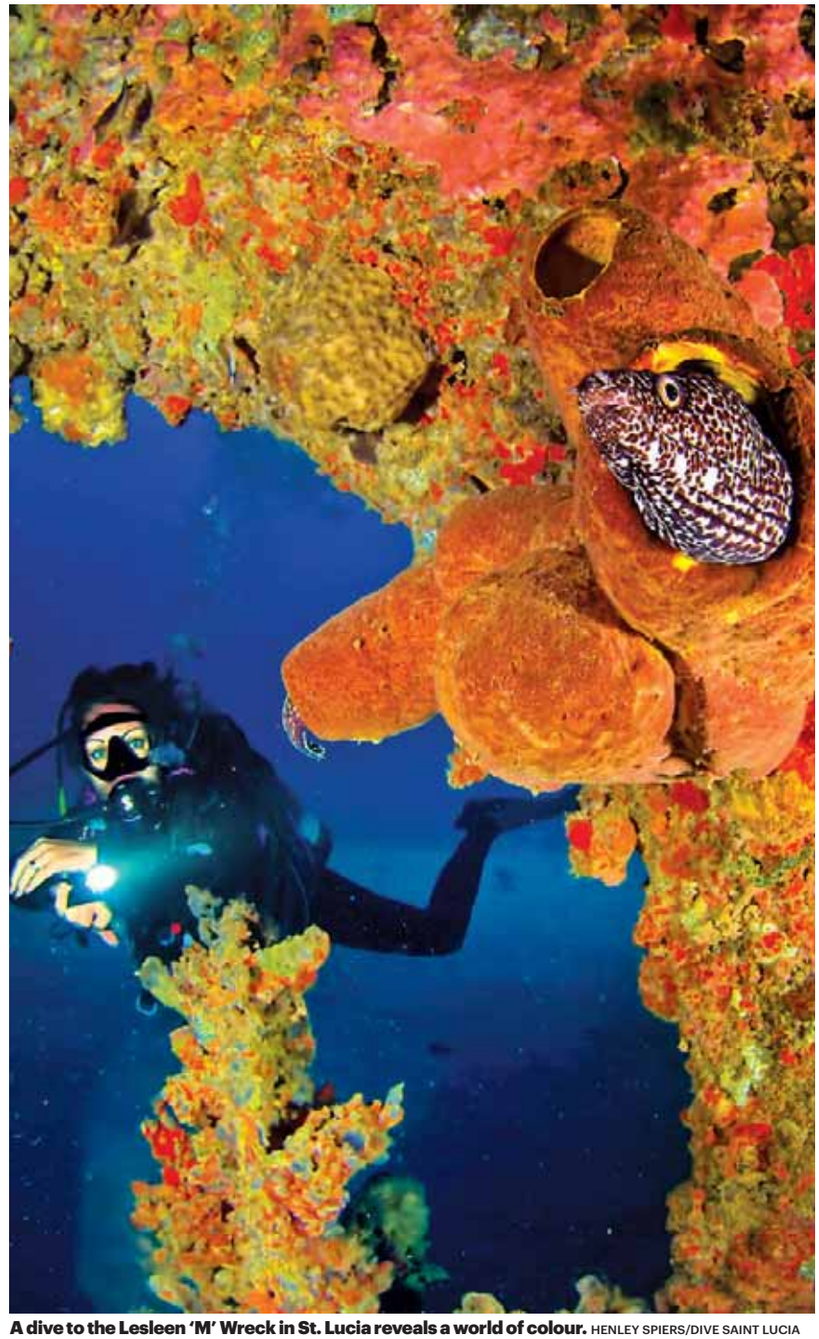
The islands' hotels have created niches to suit every taste, whether you are traveling solo or as a family.

The stunning Ladera Resort is a couples-only resort, which sets the standard for romantic getaways. With open-air rooms complete with furniture and case goods made by local wood carvers, giant showers tiled with playful mosaics and private plunge pools all uniquely positioned with a view between the Pitons, you can't help but get in the mood.

Rendezvous is another couples-only resort popular with people planning a destination wedding. The resort will make an exception for your single mother-in-law ... if you really want to bring her.

The BodyHoliday is a wellness resort on the northwest side of the island offering everything from massages to complete seven-day overhauls of your body, inside and out.

TRAVEL WAS PROVIDED TO ST. LUCIA BY THE ST. LUCIA TOURIST BOARD



A dive to the Lesleen 'M' Wreck in St. Lucia reveals a world of colour. HENLEY SPIERS/DIVE SAINT LUCIA

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Dunes, donkeys dot Jeri Beach

BRAZIL

Retreat offers surfing, carnival-like atmosphere

At the first donkey sighting, you know you're in for more than just a regular few days at the beach.

Twisting around sand dunes and scrubland in a 4x4 with the tires deflated for better traction is a surreal experience, like you're auditioning for The Amazing Race. Then, the town of Jericoacoara appears out of nowhere, popping out from of behind the dunes.

From village to retreat

Located about 300 kilometres northwest of Fortaleza in the Brazilian state of Ceará, Jeri Beach, population 1,200, was once a simple fishing village without electricity, roads or telephones. Now, it's a full-on beach retreat, complete with kite and wind surfing, dune buggies and drivers to hire, surfing lessons to take, sand boards to rent for $1 an hour, palapas to sit under and beer to drink.

The town's tourism boom is fairly recent history: Visitors started arriving in 1985; surfers lured by the calm seas and high waves. Electricity followed in 1998, and the region became a national park in 2002. Because there are still no roads, all the supplies for each and every hotel and business are trucked in over the dunes. A medical helicopter is on hand for emergencies and plans for an airport are in the works.

As for must-dos, once you've visited Pedra Furada's photogenic seaside rock formation, short hops by 4x4 are the order of the day.

Beach club bliss

A chilled-out vibe prevails at nearby Paradise Beach, a freshwater lagoon about 20 minutes away, quiet and unfussy, rather bohemian. This is the best beach club in the area, the perfect spot to sip your caipirinha, Brazil's national cocktail.

Just make sure you're back in Jeri before nightfall, when tourists and townspeople congregate on the giant Sunset Dune at the water's edge west of town to watch the sun sink behind the sea, the horseback riders and the determined sand boarders.

This is also where you can watch the spins and kicks of kids performing the capoeira, a Brazilian martial art that dates back to the 16th century. Part dance, part game of combat, it is spurred on by singing chants and acoustic music played on traditional instruments.

After sundown, an almost carnival-like atmosphere emerges along the sandy, unlit streets as people weave their way through market stalls and beach bars, the ever-present smell of barbecue in the air.

On your way out of town, you can understand why the wild donkeys — once domestic pack animals for the fishermen — never left this place. You won't want to either.

If you go

Intrepid Travel offers a guided tour to Jericoacoara within a 14-day Northern Brazil carbon-offset experience launching this June from Rio de Janeiro, ending in Fortaleza. Visit IntrepidTravel.com.

DOUG WALLACE

Horseback riding on Jeri Beach. DOUG WALLACE

Dune buggies ready to roll. DOUG WALLACE

A Jeri Beach donkey ambles along. STPHEN BROWN

Jeri Beach town. DOUG WALLACE

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ALBANIA

Old bunkers to woo visitors

This summer Albania plans to debut what it hopes will become a new selfie spot for tourists: Sazan Island, a former military base that still has bunkers and tunnels designed to withstand nuclear attack.

"What once was an isolated, unreached spot, a mystery to almost all Albanians but a few then-communist leaders, may now turn into an attractive place, especially for foreign tourists," says Auron Tare of Albania's National Coastal Agency.

Sazan Island is still technically a military base, but only two sailors remain, offering night shelter to navies patrolling Albanian waters.

"It's a mysterious island, part of the old communist Albania's mystery," says Celine Damery of France's Conservatoire du Littoral, which conserves coastal areas.

The island's many trenches and tunnels show how much money the once cash-strapped communist government spent fearing a Western invasion. But now they're hoping Westerners will come, both to see Sazan and the country's other attractions — unspoiled beaches, tall mountains and history going back to ancient Greece.

> **It's a mysterious island**
> Celine Damery of France's Conservatoire du Litoral

Walking uphill on a mile-long pathway through pine trees and singing birds, many of the 3,600 one-man bunkers can still be seen dotting the hills, often in the shade of wild fig trees. It's not easy getting inside the bunkers though: They're still guarded — by lizards and the occasional snake.

Inland, the spooky, ruined buildings still contain old beds, kitchen utensils, school benches and chairs.

The island needs power and drinking water installed before tourists can arrive, but Tare has lots of ideas for Sazan's future. Anti-nuclear tunnels would be cool for visitors on hot summer days, and could maybe even be repurposed as wine cellars, Tare says. Maybe an international school or research centre for underwater and coastal heritage could be created here.

One idea that's been rejected: offers from Las Vegas investors to turn the island into a casino. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro SPORTS
Your essential daily news

With the French Open looming, Serena Williams pulled out of the Italian Open with an ailing elbow

CFL

Mitchell fined for Holocaust tweets

Defensive lineman Khalif Mitchell has been fined undisclosed amounts by the Canadian Football League and the Montreal Alouettes for inappropriate posts on Twitter, including a link to a Holocaust denial video.

CFL commissioner Jeffrey Orridge said Mitchell violated the league's social-media policy.

"There is absolutely no place in our league for commentary used to divide or disparage others along the lines of sex, race, religion or sexual orientation," Orridge said in a statement.

"While we acknowledge that players have a right to hold and express their own opinions, in no circumstance do we condone activity or comments that are derogatory or inappropriate, putting the League's reputation in question — and we feel Mr. Mitchell's recent posts on social media have violated these principles."

Alouettes president and CEO Mark Weightman said the team denounced Mitchell's online posts.

"His postings are disappointing and in no way reflect the opinions and values of the Montreal Alouettes Football Club," said Weightman. "His postings were completely unacceptable and the Alouettes apologize to anyone who was offended by them."

B'nai Brith Canada alerted the Alouettes and the league to a series of tweets sent recently by Mitchell. It said Mitchell's Twitter feed was "replete with bizarre postings and outlandish conspiracy theories, comparisons of police officers to the Ku Klux Klan and hateful videos denying the Holocaust." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Khalif Mitchell GETTY IMAGES

Melnyk seeks live donor for his liver transplant

SENATORS

Team says its owner has been sick since mid-January

Ottawa Senators owner Eugene Melnyk urgently needs a liver transplant and the NHL club has put out a call for a potential "live donor."

Melnyk was admitted to hospital three weeks age due to "liver-related complications," the team said in a release Thursday.

His family has reached out to close friends and relatives with the hope of finding a suitable donor candidate but hasn't been successful, the team said. The Senators and the Melnyk family is looking for "any members of the public who may be interested in being a live liver donor."

This process involves the removal of a portion of the living donor's liver so it can be transplanted into the recipient patient.

Eugene Melnyk GETTY IMAGES

The Senators have been hit hard with health issues recently. General manager Bryan Murray has Stage 4 colon cancer and assistant coach Mark Reeds died of cancer last month.

Melnyk had been conspicuously absent from the Sens' surprise playoff run this spring.

"Today, the club wishes to share with the hockey community and our fans that Mr. Melnyk has been sick and battling major health issues since mid-January," the team said. "Since then, his medical care and treatment have been the sole focus for him and his family."

According to Dr. Atul Humar, the medical director of the University Health Network's organ transplant program in Toronto, the liver is a highly resilient organ that can regenerate itself within 90-120 days and return back to its normal size.

"Any healthy adult between the ages of 18-55 years could be a potential live liver donor," Humar said in the team statement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
CANADA CRUSHES BELARUS, INTO SEMIS
Canada's Jake Muzzin knocks Artyom Demkov of Belarus off-balance in gaining possession of the puck during their quarter-final match at the world hockey championship on Thursday in Prague. Brent Burns had two goals and two assists, while Tyler Seguin recorded a hat trick in Canada's 9-0 rout of Belarus. The impressive offensive showing moved Canada into the semifinals for the first time in six years. The Canucks will face the Czech Republic on Saturday after the hosts beat Finland 5-3.
JONATHAN NACKSTRAND/ AFP/GETTY IMAGES

DEFLATEGATE

Union urges Goodell to appoint a neutral arbitrator

Tom Brady appealed his four-game suspension for his role in using deflated footballs during the AFC championship game, and the players' union immediately urged commissioner Roger Goodell to appoint a neutral arbitrator to hear the case.

The expected appeal was filed by the NFL Players Association on Thursday about an hour before the 5 p.m. deadline. The league's collective bargaining agreement stipulates that it will be decided by commissioner Roger Goodell or a person he designates.

"Given the NFL's history of inconsistency and arbitrary decisions in disciplinary matters, it is only fair that a neutral arbitrator hear this appeal," the union said in a news release.

The union did not detail specifics of the appeal in its release.

The NFL announced the quarterback's suspension on Monday, also fining the New England Patriots $1 million and taking away two draft picks.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NICKNAME IS HOT AIR

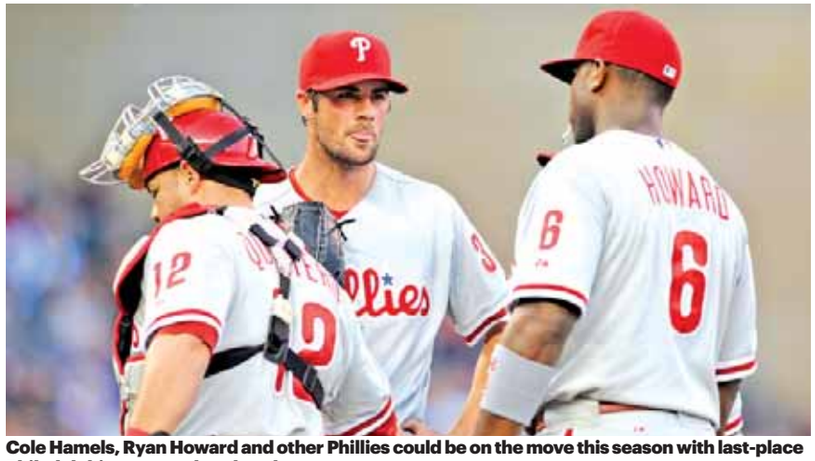
Team attorney Daniel Goldberg said the "Deflator" nickname used by a ballboy and cited in the discipline was about weight loss, not footballs.

The two employees used the term jokingly to refer to locker-room attendant Jim McNally, who was trying to lose weight, Goldberg said.

Phillies keen to cash in on trio

MLB

Papelbon, Hamels and Howard could go if deal is right



Cole Hamels, Ryan Howard and other Phillies could be on the move this season with last-place Philadelphia expected to clean house. HANNAH FOSILEN/GETTY IMAGES

Cole Hamels, Jonathan Papelbon and Ryan Howard could shake up the pennant race this October. If they change uniforms.

The ace, the closer and the slugger are making a team on pace for another last-place finish one to watch for all the wrong reasons. Each player has been available for a while, but they're still on the Philadelphia Phillies because general manager Ruben Amaro Jr. hasn't found the right deal for various reasons.

"We're not trying to make the perfect deal. In any deal we make, to put it bluntly, both sides have to be winners," team president Pat Gillick told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "People think you make a deal to take advantage of someone else. No, that isn't the case because you want to go back and have repeat business with that person. When you're making a deal, you want to make a fair deal. He's not looking to make a deal that's going to bring the house down."

Hamels, a three-time all-star and the 2008 World Series MVP, should bring the Phillies the best return. The 31-year-old lefty has three years and $73.5 million left on his contract, $87.5 million if his 2019 option kicks in. He's a proven big-game pitcher who dominated in the postseason. Hamels is 3-3 with a 3.53 ERA in eight starts and has a limited no-trade clause.

Boston, St. Louis and Toronto are often mentioned in trade rumours for Hamels. The Red Sox have the worst staff ERA in the AL. The Cardinals lost Adam Wainwright for the season.

The Blue Jays never replaced Marcus Stroman. Other teams including the Los Angeles Dodgers and Chicago Cubs and White Sox could be interested.

The Phillies certainly want top prospects in return for Hamels, but perhaps it won't take as many high-level players as reports have indicated.

"We haven't got an offer that's commensurate with his ability," Gillick said of Hamels.

Papelbon has been excellent, converting all seven of his save chances with a 1.26 ERA after 39 saves in 43 tries in 2014. On Wednesday night, he surpassed Jose Mesa to become the franchise's all-time saves leader with 113.

He also is Boston's franchise leader with 219. Papelbon already has made it clear he wants to play for a contender.

Howard would've been traded long ago if the Phillies found any takers. His contract — $25 million this season with $35 million more owed for 2016 and a buyout — and decline in production make the 2006 NL MVP difficult to move. Howard is batting .211 with six homers and 15 RBIs. Despite his low average, he's on pace for 28 homers and could help an AL team that needs power and wants to use him as a DH. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **We haven't got an offer that's commensurate with his ability**
>
> Phillies team president Pat Gillick on Cole Hamels

IN BRIEF

Rout sates Tigers' thirst after low-scoring run

Miguel Cabrera and the Detroit Tigers were due for a game like this. Cabrera homered twice and drove in five runs, and Anibal Sanchez pitched eight sharp innings as the Tigers beat the Minnesota Twins 13-1 on Thursday.

Detroit scored seven runs in its previous four games before nearly doubling that total in the series finale.

"We've been kind of waiting for this, I think everybody has," manager Brad Ausmus said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Callahan back on the ice

Tampa Bay forward Ryan Callahan was back on the ice Thursday, 72 hours after undergoing an emergency appendectomy that sidelined him for Game 6 of the Lightning's second-round playoff series with Montreal.

Callahan skated during a light practice coach Jon Cooper held before travelling to New York, where Tampa Bay will meet the Rangers in the Eastern Conference final, beginning Saturday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Steven Gerrard GETTY IMAGES FILE

BPL SOCCER

Liverpool legend Gerrard 'dreading' last match at Anfield

Ask Liverpool fans what they'll miss most about Steven Gerrard when he leaves for the United States and they'll reel off a list of qualities that made their long-time captain one of the most revered players in English soccer.

The spectacular goals. Those surging runs into the box. His indomitable spirit. His devotion to the club.

Gerrard is regarded as a humble hometown icon in these parts, and that will ensure there will be an outpouring of emotion on Saturday when he plays at Anfield for the final time in a Liverpool shirt. Such is the demand for tickets for Gerrard's home farewell that some are being sold for more than 2,500 pounds ($3,950) on the internet.

"I've been dreading this moment," Gerrard said Thursday, looking ahead to the game against Crystal Palace. "I'm going to miss it. The aim is to stay strong and avoid a few tears."

Since making his debut in 1998 as a fresh-faced 18-year-old midfielder wearing a jersey far too big for him, Gerrard has played 708 games for Liverpool and scored 185 goals. He captained Liverpool to the Champions League title in 2005 — "the best night of my life, the pinnacle professionally" — and was voted the club's best player in a poll on its website in 2013.

His final game will be against Stoke on May 24. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Servings: 4

Ingredients
- 4 small corn tacos

Refried beans
- 1/2 cup diced onions
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1/2 tsp chili powder
- 1 cup canned, drained and rinsed white kidney beans
- 1/3 cup chicken stock
- 1/2 cup medium salsa
- 1 cup thinly sliced cooked chicken breast
- 1 cup shredded lettuce
- 1/2 cup grated old white cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese
- 3/4 cup diced tomatoes
- 2 Tbsp minced onion
- 1 Tbsp chopped cilantro
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1/2 avocado sliced thinly

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 450 F. Line a baking sheet with foil and place tacos overtop.

2. In small skillet, sauté onions, garlic and chili powder for 3 minutes. Add beans and stock, cover and simmer for 5 minutes. Purée beans in food processor. Add more water if too thick. Set aside.

3. Meanwhile, bake tacos for 5 minutes, just until lightly toasted.

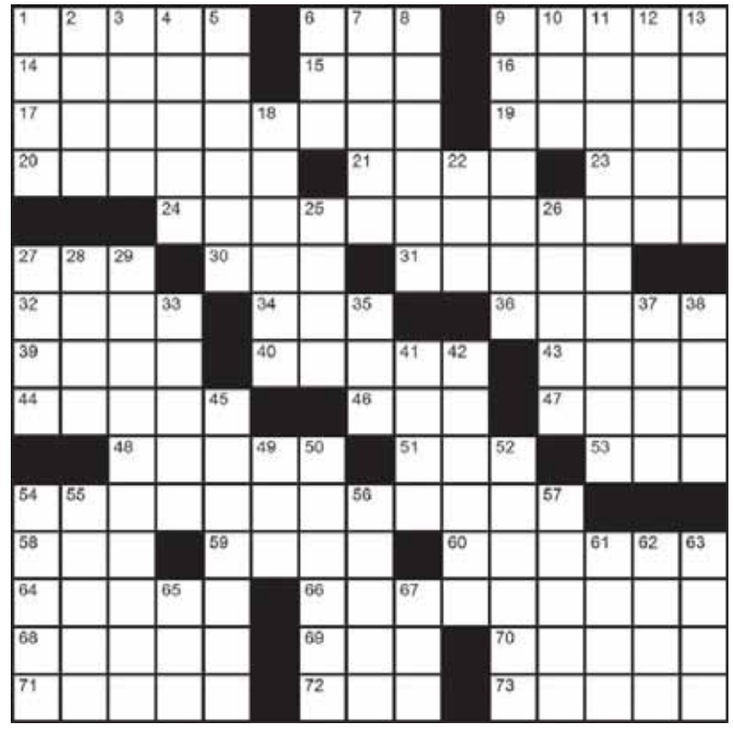
4. Divide bean purée over tacos. Add dollops of salsa. Divide chicken, lettuce and cheese over tacos.

5. In a small bowl, combine tomatoes, minced onion, cilantro and oil. Divide over tacos and add garnish with sliced avocado. Serve immediately.

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Flute, e.g.
6. Understanding utterances
9. Ice cream holders
14. Ten per cent church donation
15. Hound's hoofer
16. French singer Ms. Piaf
17. Shoulder decoration, as on a military uniform
19. Cheese-topped chip
20. "_ _: Fury Road" (2015) starring Charlize Theron
21. Gael, for one
23. Wine aperitif
24. Anna Kendrick's new musical comedy, "_ _ 2" (2015)
27. _ Leppard
30. Soft & _ (Antiperspirant)
31. Hold off
32. Roman love poet
34. Billy Joel's "Just the Way You _"
36. Hotel's main floor area
39. _-Coburg-Gotha (Former royal house)
40. 1811 Jane Austen novel, _ and Sensibility
43. Title lady of Starship's 1986 chart-topper
44. After lunchtime time, e.g.: 2 wds.
46. Mr. Cherry
47. Glance over
48. Wanders
51. Bus driver's path, briefly
53. Brewery container
54. Those who have become sensations on the 'Broadcast Yourself' website: 2 wds.
58. Facing [abbr.]
59. One-of-a-kind
60. Just to be on the safe side...: 2 wds.
64. Bit of "O Canada" in French: "Car ton bras sait porter _'_ / Il sait porter la croix!"
66. Veronica Tennant or Karen Kain
68. Krispy _ Doughnuts
69. Anger
70. 18-wheelers
71. _ Wrap (Kitchen roll)
72. Call for
73. Petulant

DOWN
1. Thingy
2. Palm used for basketry or thatching
3. Dutch city
4. Pound
5. Put down new tiling
6. Be decisive
7. Break free from the egg
8. May _ (Big time in television ratings)
9. Halifax _ Library
10. Harem room
11. "How You Remind Me" band from Hanna, Alberta
12. Strong work _
13. "SCTV" alum Martin
18. Additional things
22. Allow
25. Wax: French
26. Dental care purchase
27. "I can only _ _ much." (I need assistance!)
28. Diana Ross' son married to Ashlee Simpson
29. In-need-of-work real estate listing
33. Bus station
35. Terminate
37. Hillside in Scotland
38. Yin and _
41. Variety
42. Necessitate
45. Canadian contralto legend Ms. Forrester
49. Entrepreneur's deg.
50. Where Belgrade is the capital
52. Mr. Borgnine
54. Inners of eggs
55. Music for #45-Down
56. Department store chain
57. Loose rock at a cliff's base
61. Focuses
62. Dither
63. Simple
65. _ Savahl (Couture brand)
67. Albanian currency

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is one of the best times of the year for getting things done. Even the smallest effort on your part will yield remarkable results over the next three or four days, so go for it!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You must be decisive today. You must draw up a plan and follow it through to completion. Deal firmly with those who get in your way. Be ruthless if you have to — there's a lot at stake.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Wherever you go and whatever you do Lady Luck will smile on you today. But don't use that as an excuse to go places or do things that put you at some sort of risk. You may be lucky but you are not invincible.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
The whole world could be against you today and you won't care a bit: in fact you will enjoy being the odd one out. You are looking for a challenge, the kind that no one expects you to win. Watch their faces when you succeed!

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Anything is possible and according to the planets there is one thing you want above all else at the moment. Jupiter in your sign endows you with huge self-belief, so success is all but guaranteed.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You have to tell someone you like something that you know is going to hurt their feelings. Get it over with quickly. One day they will thank you for being so honest.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Whatever challenges come your way today you will deal with them with ease. This is one of those occasions when you need to be pushed to your limits and beyond. And what a Libra needs a Libra gets.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Try to be a bit more assertive today. Let people in positions of power know that you are not the sort of person they can kick around. You don't have to be rude but you do have to stand up for yourself.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Jupiter in the sympathetic sign of Leo means you will make your own decisions and take whatever risks you think are necessary. You won't doubt for a moment that you are doing the right thing. And you are.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
It does not matter that others say something cannot be done — if you want it enough you will find a way to get it. Stop worrying and start looking ahead and planning where you are going to be.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
With Jupiter moving through the partnership area of your chart you need only click your fingers for others to come running. Make the most of it — it won't last.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You will get through so much work today that some people may wonder aloud if you are on some kind of stimulant! You're not, of course, but you are certainly in one of those moods when you feel almost superhuman. Up, up and away!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

			9			1		6
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